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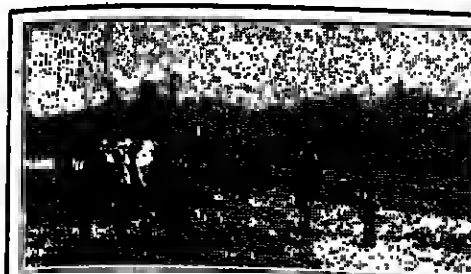
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In search of
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The Star

Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly

Amman, 24-30 May 1990

اسبوعية سياسية مستقلة

Vol: 1 No: 18

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The Star

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كلنا من الامم

Sunday's killings condemned; the West calls for restraint

Amman (Star)—World capitals continued to voice their reaction to the massacre by a former Israeli soldier of eight Arab workers near Tel Aviv on Sunday and the continued Israeli violence against Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Jordan was the first country to condemn the killings. Prime Minister Mr Mudar Badran said the killings are an extension of the official terrorism practised by Israel in the occupied areas. He called upon the United States and the Soviet Union to stand firmly against Israeli extremists and Israel's practices in the occupied Arab lands.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) strongly condemned the attack and called for the convening of the UN Security Council. Palestinian President Mr Yasser Arafat called for immediate international protection

of the Palestinian people and for an international probe into the massacre.

The PLO's representative in Tunis Mr Hakam Bala'wi delivered a strong protest by the PLO to the American administration through its embassy in Tunisia.

The US administration had on Tuesday refused a visa application submitted by Mr Arafat to attend the UN deliberations in New York. Accordingly the Arab states sponsoring the Security Council's session were planning to move the session from New York to Geneva to allow Mr Arafat to attend.

France also condemned the massacre and called upon the European Community to extend emergency aid to Palestinians inside the occupied territories.

In Washington, the White House on Tuesday issued a statement on behalf of President

George Bush, who extended his sympathies to the families of the Palestinian workers killed. The statement said Mr Bush was troubled by the violent aftermath of these deaths. He called upon Israeli soldiers to act with maximum restraint.

The statement said it was essential to address the political issues that lie in the core of the region's strife. The White House reiterated its support of the Israeli initiative, which it said the US is trying to implement. It expressed hope for the "quick emergence of an Israeli government that is capable of making decisions on issues of peace."

Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs Mr Joe Clark expressed his country's shock at the unprecedented violence in the Israeli-occupied territories. In a statement on Tuesday Mr Clark said the large number of

civilians injured by live fire from Israeli forces "is of particular concern." Mr Clark warned of the tense political environment in the area of which the attack on French tourists in Amman on Monday "is one alarming repercussion."

Britain's Foreign Minister Douglas Hurd expressed his country's concern over the massacre and called for maximum restraint on all sides. He added that the status quo offers only "certainty of more violence and bloodshed." He called for an early dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians.

The European Community (EC) issued a statement on Tuesday deploring the massacre of eight Arabs. It expressed the community's concern over Israel's response to spontaneous demonstrations and called for a resumption in the peace process.

On the record

● Jordan will today, Thursday, observe a public holiday to mark the Kingdom's Independence day which falls Friday 25 May.

On the occasion, Prime Minister Mudar Badran is expected to hold a reception which will be attended by His Majesty King Hussein and other Jordanian officials.

● The Supreme Court has rejected a suit raised by a number of former ambassadors and civil servants at the Foreign Ministry who have been retired or transferred to other ministries.

The Supreme Court stated that the Foreign Minister has acted in accordance with the law and has not misused his powers or his job by carrying out these measures.

● A study is underway to set up a higher executive council to co-ordinate action among the various hospitals after all measures to dissolve the National Medical Institution are taken.

● The court which has been investigating cases of corruption has completed hearings of all witnesses. The cases involved include the sale of part of the country's gold reserves, and the tender of the Amusement Park at Al-Jubelha. The court is expected to issue its verdicts on these cases in the next few weeks.

● The Secretary General of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC), Dr Hani Nammar will leave for Baghdad on 4 June to attend specialised ministerial meetings of the Council.

● Regular bus services are expected to be initiated in Mid June to tourist areas. The step is designed to boost local tourism.

● The General Secretary of the Parliament, Mr Hani Khair is expected to retire or hold a new position in the near future.

● Director of the Department of Antiquities Mr Ghazi Bishah Tuesday started a several-day visit to Italy during which he will give a number of lectures on archaeology at the Institute of Middle East Studies. Dr Bishah will also attend the Jordanian National Exhibition which opened in Rome Monday.

Turkish ambassador denies reports about improved Turkish-Israeli relations

By a Star Staff Writer

AMMAN - Turkey's Ambassador to Jordan Mr Oktay Askoy has denied press reports that his country was improving its relations with Israel and reiterated Ankara's support for Arab and Palestinian causes. He said he had not received confirmations from his government to such reports.

"It has become fashionable these days to bring relations with Israel into the limelight," he said in an interview with The Star. He said that while trade relations with Israel were "not significant," diplomatic relations with the Hebrew state were kept in low profile.

"Israel has determined the level of its relations with Turkey," said Mr Askoy. "We had an ambassador there until 1967 when we reduced our representation to a counsellor and after Israel's annexation of Jerusalem in 1980 we lowered it further." He said that without real improvement in the situation (regarding Palestinian rights) it will be difficult for Turkish-Israeli relations to change.

Turkey recognised the Palestine National Council's (PNC) declaration of an independent Palestinian state but has not upgraded the level of Palestinian representation in Ankara.

Mr Askoy also rejected Israel's declaration of occupied Jerusalem as "one city belonging to Israel." He said that Jerusalem has a special place in the three religions (Islam, Christianity and Judaism) and cannot be accepted as the capital of Israel.

The Turkish envoy expressed his gratitude to His Majesty King Hussein and the Jordanian Government for their position regarding the problem of Turkish minority in Bulgaria last year, "which supported the Turkish case." He said that the problem did not only concern Turkey but "was an issue of human rights which concerned all the Islamic countries."

But, he added, there were not similar satisfaction with the position taken by other Arab countries. "I also see articles in Arab papers which are not satisfied with the position taken by Turkey in support of Arab causes. It is more a question of evaluation of positions taken by different countries."

Regarding Turkey's Ataturk Dam project and disruption of the flow of the Euphrates into Syria and Iraq early this year, Mr Askoy said the project needed another year before the water level at the dam reaches the turbine level. But he said that unless "we face a very serious drought next year, the flow of water will not be disrupted."

Turkey's damming of the Euphrates waters had created some discontent from Syria and Iraq which depend on the river. Currently water is allowed to seep into Syria at a rate of 500 cubic metres per second. The ambassador said his country will use water from other Turkish dams in the south east of the country to help fill the dam, the largest in the giant Anatolia project which will develop that part of Turkey and lure investors in agro-industrial projects.

A mixed tripartite committee meet regularly to exchange information regarding the flow of water in the Euphrates. Mr Askoy said that the work of a ministerial committee has recently been revived after the visit of Turkish President Turgut Ozal to Baghdad. The committee is expected to convene in Ankara in June.

Turkey has made a proposal to "evaluate" water supply and irrigation out of the Euphrates, which is the most important water source for the Syrians, so that "an optimum utilisation of water is envisaged."

Syria and Iraq had also voiced their concern over water pollution which may occur after irrigation starts at the Turkish side in fertilised farmland. "Our calculation does not indicate cause



Ambassador Askoy

for alarm," Mr Askoy said. He added that irrigation will not start until after two years from now and while some pollutants will remain in the water the situation will be studied by experts.

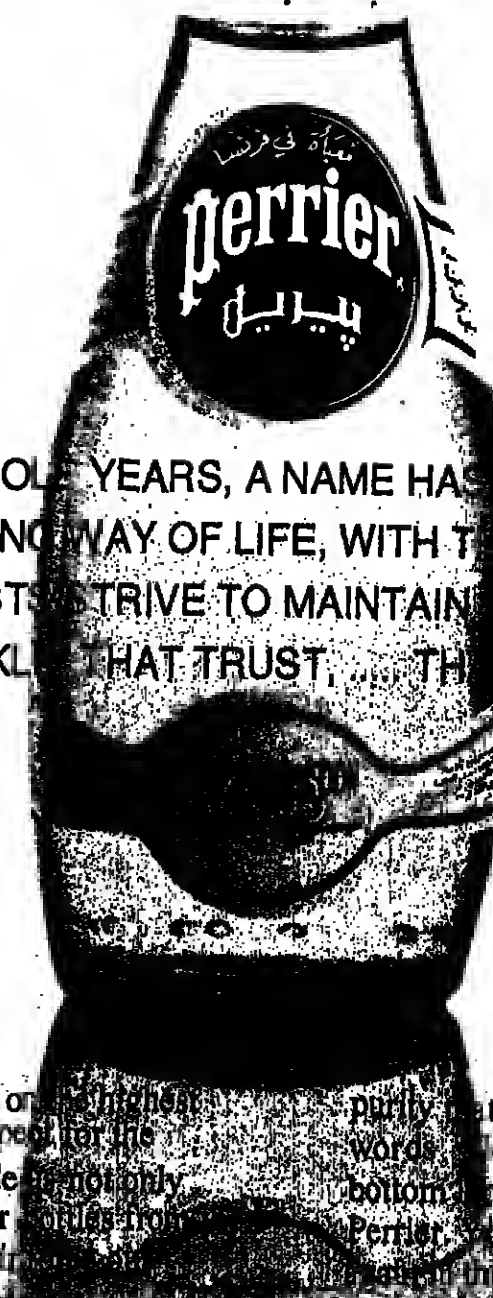
On the Cyprus problem, the Turkish envoy repeated his government's call for a negotiated settlement which could end in establishing a federated state on the island where the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots "can maintain their separate identities and co-operation could be encouraged by these two entities."

The Turkish envoy said his country's relations with Europe-

an Market (EC) countries aim at bringing Turkey closer to Europe. But with the EC countries working for the Single Market in 1992 and the recent events in Eastern Europe "it has become difficult for them (EC) to start negotiations with Turkey about future relations." He added that his country looks forward to co-operating with its Eastern European neighbours in the near future.

On relations with Turkey's other neighbour, Iran, Mr Askoy described them as "very good" but that sometimes there may be "misunderstandings" regarding the "security of our borders."

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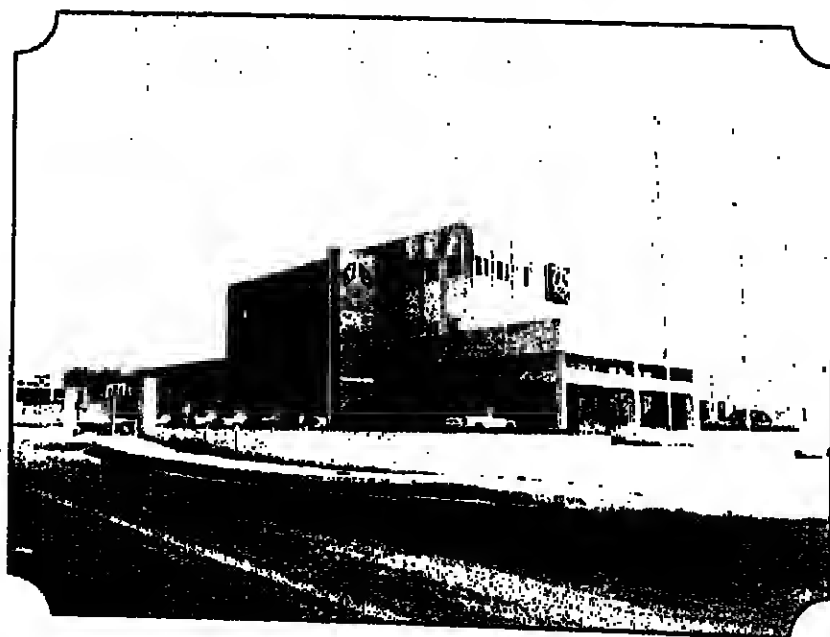


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By a Star Staff Writer

BAQA— The demonstrations appear to have ceased after a long day of disturbances. No riot police forces are to be seen in or around Baqa refugee camp on this Wednesday noon. But business still seemed far from usual.

The camp's marketplace was open but not much selling was going on in the shops on whose roofs black flags were still fluttering mourning the dead of last Sunday's brutal killing of Palestinian workers in Israel.

Tens of young people who gathered in small groups in the main street of the market were engaged in debates over the demonstrations that erupted in the camp during the last few days and the clashes that ensued with the security forces.

"The situation is calm now, but people are angry, extremely angry and frustrated," says a young resident of the camp.

But this anger is not directed at Jordan, says another young man who seems to be a leading figure at the camp's youth club. He says that national unity between Jordanians and Palestinians were among the major things "that we called for during the demonstrations."

The people's fury is against Israel, the United States, and Egypt, he says.

"While Israel commits daily atrocities against Palestinians, the Israeli ambassador is still in Egypt and America continues support Israeli policies."

In Baqa camp, whose population numbers 75,000, "Americans are in danger and the peo-



Jordan's days of rage

Young men in Jordan's refugee camps have taken to the streets to express their anger and frustration at the recent killing of eight Palestinians inside Israel. In Baqa camp the young have defied the traditional leaderships and are now calling for Arab action to confront Israel's repression of the Intifada. Despite their clash with security forces, they claim they were not the ones to start them. They are calm now, but for how long?

ple demand that the American ambassador leaves Jordan," says a young man who seems to enjoy enormous respect from the group of young Palestinians who gathered around this reporter at the poorly-furnished Youth Club in the middle of the camp.

Most importantly—says the young Palestinian who did not give out his name but shall be re-

ferred to in this article as Ahmad—people are enraged by the official Arab stand on the Palestinian problem, and the situation in the camps will depend on the outcome of the Arab summit which is expected to be held in Baghdad by the end of the month.

Ahmad says that all the political parties in the camp have de-

cided to await the decisions of the Arab summit before organising any new demonstrations. "If the Arab leaders do not decide to take firm stands against the Israelis and do not prepare for a possible confrontation with them then more demonstrations will take place," he says.

Many young Palestinian refugees who spoke to this reporter said that their main demand during the demonstrations was to "open the frontiers for military action against Israel." They criticised the Arab governments and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for pursuing the path of peace that Israel finally rejects.

...a generation of militant young Palestinians, who completely reject the Arab policies towards the Palestinian problem, is emerging independently of traditional leaderships.

The Youth Club is the only public place in which the young men of the camp meet. According to Ahmad a generation of militant young Palestinians, who completely reject the Arab policies towards the Palestinian problem, is emerging independently of traditional leaderships.

These groups organised their own demonstration in the camp on Monday and it was with them that the security forces first clashed.

"We never intended to clash with the police and every body is against confrontation with the security forces," says Ahmad. But, he charges that the security forces overreacted and provoked the demonstrators.

He says that the demonstration which started on Monday morning and afternoon—the first organised by the leftists and the second by the Islamists—were highly organised and did not give the security forces any reason to interfere. But when a third demonstration tried to walk to Amman to attend a rally that was organised at the Profession-

'The situation is calm now, but people are angry, extremely angry and frustrated.'

al Unions Association in Shmeisani, riot police interfered and stopped the march at Safat, five kilometres north of Sweileh.

Later, claims the young leader, the riot police and the Baalut units forced their way into the camp, using live ammunition and tear gas to disperse the crowds. Ahmad claims that two residents of the camp, Yousef Yaghi and Moussa Al Deges, were killed during the clashes and more than 60 others were wounded.

Official government statements have said that Baqa demonstrators fired at the police and attacked a police station in the camp. It also said that the crowds threw stones at the police who did not interfere until the situation got out of control.

Residents of the camp say they did not attack the police station nor did they use guns against the police.

Ahmad says the situation calmed down when a parliamentary delegation headed by Speaker of the Lower House Hri Sulaiman Arar visited the camp and met with its residents.

He said the residents demanded that the government com-

sate them for their damaged properties, especially houses and cars which were destroyed by the armoured vehicles, they also called for the immediate release of those who were detained during the protests. The residents also requested the delegation, which included deputies Laila Shbeilat, Mansour Saif-Eddin Murad, Mohammed Abu Faraj, Abdullah Ensour, Hameed Said, Fauzi Al Tuaimah and others, to guarantee that the government will not make any more arrests.

"We also expressed our wish that the borders of all confrontation states be opened for military action, especially that the status quo cannot last for long," says Ahmad.

"For three years the Intifada has been raging in the occupied territories and we have done nothing to help it. We cannot keep on watching them (the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza) getting killed and doing nothing about it," says one of the camp's residents.

A Zionist turned a staunch supporter of Palestinians

By a Star Staff Writer

FOR MORE than eight years, Dr Swee Chai Ang has been a familiar name among Palestinians in both Lebanon and the occupied territories. Through her work with Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) which she helped establish, Dr Ang, an orthopaedic surgeon, has treated thousands of Palestinians who were "victims of Israel." But before 1982 when Israel invaded south Lebanon, Dr Ang was an anti-Arab who believed all Arabs were terrorists.

"My story (with the Palestinians) is that of a person who learned about a people through their death and this should not be allowed to happen again,"

Dr Ang says that she first heard of Palestinians in 1982 through the media coverage of the bloody events in south Lebanon. Reading newspapers in London where she currently lives, she learned that "Israel was going to flush out the terrorist Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)." And having grown up in Singapore and lived in London where the misconceptions about the Arabs are so deeply-rooted, she found that easy to believe.

Later, however, she realised that Israel was not attacking "the terrorist PLO," but rather killing and wounding the women, children and elderly of Beirut.

To such discovery, Dr Ang's reaction was that of disbelief. "How could Israel, the democratic country that makes the desert bloom" commit such crimes, she wondered.

Accordingly, Dr Ang decided to go and extend help to the victims of Israel, the country she has "supported for so long," and answered the call of a Christian society which needed volunteers to go and work in Lebanon.

On her way to Lebanon, Dr Ang met the first "person who called himself a Palestinian" and then too she was stunned because "he was kind, polite, civilised, and did not look like a PLO terrorist."

Since then, Dr Ang has undergone a major transformation, turning from a Zionist who believed all Arabs were terrorists and spoiled sheikhs into a pro-Arab who is constantly working to help and promote the cause of the Palestinian people.

Currently, Dr Ang spends her time lecturing in the west about

the suffering of the Palestinian people. She believes that a lot of hard work needs to be done to explain to the world, especially the West, the true situation in the Middle East. To this end,

she has written a book, "From Beirut to Jerusalem," in which she objectively speaks about her

Dr Swee Chai Ang



Dr Swee Ang

experience working with the Palestinians in the refugee camps, and the daily suffering of Palestinians under occupation.

She believes that attention should be given to the media coverage of the Palestinian problem. She says that objective coverage is essential in conveying the truth of the situation in the Middle East.

"I don't think all United Nations resolutions will explain the case. People don't want to listen to politicians," she says in reference to the west, "but a child, with face, can do a lot" in changing the misconceptions about the Arab-Israeli conflict in the West.

The problem of the Palestinian cause, says Dr Ang who's passion for Palestinian, "will never die," is that it is about "the ABC" of human injustice, "A"

she says, "the Palestinians were driven from their homes, B, they were denied a voice to speak, and C, they were blamed for it."

And "if the civilised world has conscience, it will respond and help solve the Palestinian problem and give the Palestinian people (their) home," Dr Ang says.

She says that the Palestinians have been extremely generous in their pursuit of peace in the region, and have made the first step but the key to peace is in the hands of the Israelis.

"Even though asking Palestinians to recognise Israel is like asking someone dying to surrender his sword, for how could you ask the survivors of Sabra and Shatila to recognise the Israelis, the Palestinians have recognised Israel" and called for peace, says Dr Ang.

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Shawa's work produces mixed feelings of hilarity and concern

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to The Star

AMMAN - The subjects from which artists here in Jordan most frequently draw their inspiration are - for obvious reasons - the landscape, the traditional way of life and culture and the political situation. Rarely do they address themselves or their work to social issues and it is for this reason that the exhibition of Laila Rashad Shawa currently on show at the Jordan National Gallery (JNG) makes such an impact.

In sunshine bright colours Mrs Shawa makes some astute and witty observations about the women who are completely covered particularly as seen when they travel abroad.

Spotted out of context in the Western capitals doing things they would never normally do back at home, the behaviour of these women draws stares and comments. And it is these aspects of their lives that Mrs Shawa captures on her canvases.

Any kind of social satire is bound to raise some hackles but Mrs Shawa insists that she is not criticising Islam. "I don't want this exhibition in any way to be construed as an attack against the religion," she explains. "Rather, it is an attack against the misinterpretation of Islam and against hypocrisy and double standards. My work is a message to women, not against them, for how can we expect these women who are one minute human beings, the next invisible to bring

up balanced, righteous children. If we are to change our destiny, what we do and what we think must be one and the same thing."

Shawa's light-hearted approach carries a powerful punch. Her paintings make you laugh out loud while at the same time causing you to reflect on these women who see the world but are unseen, who try to be part of life yet are not allowed to be part of it. Although ostensibly simple - each painting is basically the depiction in caricature of the women's covered heads revealing only their eyes which remain closed or empty - Shawa's work is rich in ideas and comment.

Take for example "Aliens." Here two immensively colourful punks are walking through the inevitable crowd - they are always seen in groups - of covered women who through blank eyes still manage to express emotions of surprise, disapproval and disgust. The punks on the other hand, who dress as they do to generate these feelings remain completely oblivious to the women. One has the feeling that the women are not being studiously ignored but are truly invisible to the punks despite their number.

The striking and lavish individualism of the punks further accentuates the women's lack of personality. But it is the title as always in Shawa's work that carries the final twist. Who after all are the Aliens?

This idea of being invisible is explored in other paintings. "Endangered Species" makes



you wonder if these women are really in danger of losing their identities. "Moon Walkers" stresses the point that they cannot truly relate to reality, while "Impossible Dream" and "Luna Park" illustrate the daily frustrations these women face in being allowed to see some of the simple pleasures in life while being prevented from enjoying them. "Masks" is about the women underneath who secretly make up their faces to be as alluring as a front page model. A blank-eyed man leading a procession of blank-eyed covered women in "The Road to Nowhere" could be subtitled, the blind leading the blind. Like all good black comedy, Shawa's work produces mixed emotions of hilarity, sorrow and concern.

Taking the viewer into a more serious mood is a series of paintings that deal with loss of innocence which use the pure white

beauty of the azyam lilly as their symbol. In these, unveiled girls painted in realistic detail are surrounded by covered women who seem at once to be threatening and protective. It is decisive moment, whether the girl will break with convention or submit.

Shawa's largest and most complex work, "The Bride" is the summation of all her ideas and as such it is evocative yet delicate piece. The soft transparencies in this work serve to draw attention to the bold application of strong colours as used in her other paintings.

Shawa's concern for her heritage comes across in three works entitled "Turkuman Girl from Gaza". As a "frustrated architect" as Shawa calls herself, the artist has been much involved with saving the great mosque of Sayed Hashem, where the great grandfather of the Prophet is buried, from the threat of destruction. In these works the mosque with its crumbling walls can be seen in the background. In the foreground stands a girl wearing the traditional dress of Gaza. Her strong, proud features represent for Shawa some of the many qualities of the women of the area.

Shawa's concern for her environment does not stop with the threat to her own heritage. After being invited by the National Gallery in Kuala Lumpur to be their resident artist for one month, Shawa was exposed for the first time to the magnificent beauty of the rain forests. The threat their destruction poses to

the world as a whole became a paramount concern to her.

The four paintings of the rain forests, on exhibition here, show her passion for their overpowering richness, their verdancy and the way the sunlight streams through the ever escalating layers of leaves. While two of these remain almost realistic depictions, the other two show Mrs Shawa's own Islamic background with its love of order and geometric patterns has been through.

Although much of Shawa's work carries this oriental theme as seen in the rich patterns of the abbayus of the covered women and in the stylised architecture, it is seen most clearly in a series of paintings that are essentially decorative in approach.

Back in the late sixties, Shawa was among the first artists to develop this style after which, due mainly to her involvement with the construction of a cultural centre in Gaza, she was unable to work for a period of 12 years. Two years ago Shawa returned to painting and these paintings are her early attempts to begin where she left off.

As this style has been much imitated in the interim it has unfortunately lost much of its impact and originality. For this reason these works do detract from the many powerful social comments Shawa makes in this otherwise excellent exhibition.

The exhibition runs until the end of the month.

Exhibitions round up

Busy week for Amman's galleries

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to The Star

AMMAN - In a post-Ramadan, pre-summer rush, art exhibitions opened all over town this week. Among the most interesting and important of these is the exhibition of the work of Jordan's leading ceramicist, Mahmood Taha. A graduate of the Baghdad Academy of Fine Arts and of the Cardiff College of Arts in Wales, Taha has over the years become well known for his fine craftsmanship, for his subtle and innovative glazes and for his ability to combine the traditional shapes and forms of his craft with modern techniques.

The hidden jars, vases, amphorae and dishes on display at this current exhibition hold no surprises, conforming as always to Taha's usual high standards. The difference from previous exhibitions lies in subtle changes. The pots tend to be on a larger scale, blown up versions of traditionally much smaller shapes. Thus, we have huge versions of the kind of flasks imported from Mycenae into Jordan in the second millennium BC, elongated, taller interpretations of ancient jars which stand precariously on tiny bases and large traditional shaped storage jars.

Except for the latter and for the generous, gently indented bowls and dishes, Taha's jars have moved away from being

functional into the realm of impressively decorative. To many, the jars become sculptures assuming human proportions reminding people of the long graceful form of a bedouin woman or the more round figure of her Egyptian peasant counterpart.

Slight changes are also seen in Taha's glazes. The grainy pastel shades of the jars are highlighted with nuances of their own tones, thus pure blue is offset with a barely seen turquoise green, rich earthy browns with a touch of red evocative of damp freshly turned soil.

The decorative elements of the vessels - the calligraphy and geometric designs - are also played down. At one end of the spectrum these delicately incised patterns dance over the surface of the pots as softly as sunlight, at the other end Arabic letters flow with a bold confidence.

White Taha's pots remain easily identifiable as his work, the murals are a new departure for the artist. Large and irregularly shaped, these murals are constructions of symbols.

Islam and the traditional culture of the area are represented by arches, calligraphy, geometric patterns and squares, while male torsos and bandages indicate the political situation. The complexity of the image is further increased by many different textures, varying levels, and sev-

eral colours which range from a very striking matt charcoal to iz-nik blue.

With these rather overworked pieces one becomes very aware of Taha's Iraqi background and it is interesting to note here that many artists trained in Baghdad find it difficult to break away from the early influences of their professors despite many years of working alone.

The rather rigid and regimented display of the pots and the fact that the murals are hung in

ART REVIEW

obscure and difficult-to-see places detract from an otherwise good exhibition.

Husni Abu Ekayim is a new name to the Jordanian art scene and with his first solo exhibition at the Alia Art Gallery this week he makes quite an impact. Overly political, all his paintings, whether in acrylic, oil, watercolour or charcoal deal with aspects of the Intifada. As a graduate of graphic arts from Tashkent in the Soviet Union, Abu Ekayim is a very technically able realistic

artist - a talent that makes some of his work particularly powerful and memorable.

Perhaps the best of these is his painting entitled "Returning." Here standing in a conspiratorial group are three men whose faces are so familiar they could be those of friends. Lit from above as if by a shaft of sunlight, they stand out from the figures and the drab environment that surrounds them. One of the three men is giving us a covert victory sign quite unbeknownst to those around him. It is a tremendously subtle and winning image that draws and holds the attention as you try to understand the many layers of its message.

A much more obvious piece yet one which surprisingly loosens nothing by its blatancy is "The Beginning." Although it depicts the now much used image of the crowd of angry faces surging forwards under the banner of the Palestinian flag, it manages to overcome any sense of having been seen before by the superb rendering of its central figure - a middle aged woman in traditional dress whose facial features are made haggard by a Goya like expression of agony and distress. Disturbing and compelling it is an image that has the power to move.

Two other images that remain firmly lodged in the mind long after one has left the exhibition are Abu Ekayim's dark watercol-

our of three Israeli soldiers who trudge one behind the other laden down with an arsenal of weaponry across an empty landscape and an oil entitled "Steadfast," an uncomfortable multifaceted image dealing with the horrors of torture.

When dealing with subjects of this nature, subtle images usually carry a more powerful message. In the work of Abu Ekayim it is the other way around. It is not his symbolic or surrealist works that move one but the literal ones.

The exhibition by George Ksplanian of pen and ink and acrylic paintings of old villages and towns of Jordan, Palestine and Syria at the Goethe Institute last week has been followed by an exhibition of watercolours by Randa Beirut.

Fascinated by objects around her and in the way they can be put together to make abstract patterns Beirut creates both literal still lifes, like the luminous and delicately painted "Eggplant" and "Shapes." Beirut's work follows the same theme - great attention to detail, Beirut's jumble of architectural details, stone walls and narrow streets, at the same time she zooms in on details - on a head of a woman, a frame or an old abandoned house to create abstract images.

Rula Nabeel, artist inspired by the sheer magic of music

By Ceri Lloyd Jones
Special to The Star

THE POSTERS are up, the programme is ready. Rula Nabeel, the young Jordanian pianist, is all set for her Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) concert on 29 May.

Though a pale, whip-like figure, Rula is actually a vivacious, energetic and no-nonsense personality. Behind the glamour of her public appearances is a strict self-imposed routine. She gets up early in the little private flat under her parents' villa, practices for six hours on the Steinway grand upstairs and teaches all afternoon. Let all Romantic images of pining, waiting Bohemians be dispelled. It's a full timetable. "Being a pianist is downright hard work."

But Rula enjoys all that practicing and says emphatically, "For me, it's not a chore at all. I love doing scales and if studies get too easy, I make up my own variations."

"I always wanted to be a pianist, ever since my first concert at seven years of age," says Rula. This was an aspiration regarded by many outsiders with incomprehension; music still then not being totally acceptable as a career in Jordan. "People used to call to ask if I'd failed my high school exams," she laughed. "I couldn't care less - it's me!"

Her parents are keen music lovers and have backed her throughout the past 17 years of hard graft. Her father listens to music all day. An ophthalmic surgeon at the Palestine Hospital, Dr Cameron Nabeel even operates to the sound of Mozart. Such an atmosphere undoubtedly encouraged Rula, who went on to get Grade 8 of the Associated Board and then, aged 16, to win the Queen Noor Music Scholarship. This enabled her to study for her master's degree at the State Music Academy of Heidelberg and Mannheim.

She returned from Germany last year, happy to be home again but rather missing the regular musical evenings and discussions of her student days. Moreover, apart from the very occasional visiting piano soloists, there is no teacher for her here in Amman. What is it then that still spurs her on to practice? She feels it is the "sheer magic of music."

Rula explains in an animated way that "playback and clinical audio recordings lack that spark of life. But pop of the 60's, jazz and classical performances are each something alive and breathing which you are sharing at that moment. That is definitely magic."

Whitney Houston is a favourite performer of Rula's, who has attended several of her concerts.

"She never sings the same song like it is on the record."

Occasionally in Rula's own concerts there have been moments of dramatic immediacy beyond her control. Once the adjacent hotel kitchen burst as she played, whilst on another Jordanian occasion one of the piano's black keys came away in her hand in the middle of a sonata.

She revels in the new-found freedom from often pedantic teachers now left behind in Germany. "Now I'm putting in more and more of my own emotions, and really trying to imagine how

the composer felt at the time, he composed the piece I'm working on." Her playing has been described as having "sparkling liveliness and freshness of technical brilliance" (Novitatis 4 Sep. 1987).

In Tuesday's concert, Rula will play works by Mozart and Beethoven - two of her current favourite composers. She is particularly fascinated by these pieces as they were composed at tense moments in the life of each composer. She will give a brief explanation of each piece from the stage - a practice common in

German concerts. She marvels that "sometimes in the world of today, where people have been to the moon, you play a piece from 300 years ago and it's still so alive and relevant. I find that a miracle."

Preparing for a concert is rather like an athletic building up to a big race: you have to "peak" at the right time. Rula is actually asking her parents to lock the piano and hide the key for the odd day now to safeguard the pieces being past their best when at last she sits on the stage face to face with her audience.



Rula Nabeel

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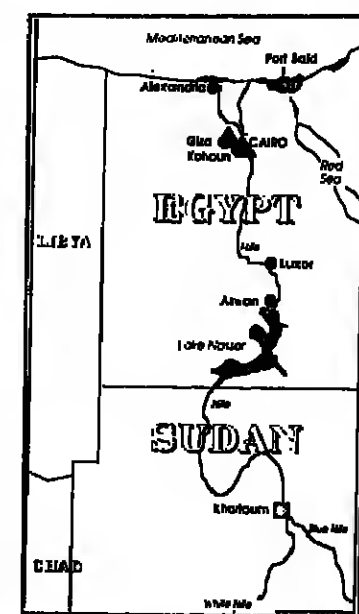
MAY 1990

Giving the desert its due in Egypt

Egypt is reclaiming its desert and inviting people bored with bleak urban or rural lifestyles to resettle in the sandy spaces beyond the fringe.

By Mercedes Sayagues
Special to The Star

CAIRO - Layla Mohammed's blue-green eyes filled with tears when she first saw the village that would be her new home: the drab rows of identical, one-storey cement houses, tightly packed in the middle of the empty desert; the sandy, treeless space nominally declared main square; and the flat, uncultivated land stretching away as far as she could see.



Then the settlers move in and the desert moves out - slowly.

This is no overnight miracle. It takes at least four years before a farm of five to six feddans (one feddan equals half a hectare) can support a family with subsistence food and an income. Reclamation of the house and land is spread out over 30 years, without interest, with a three-year

grace period. Layla first rejected the idea. "My husband, a labourer?" she protested. "And are we to live in the desert?" She argued and pleaded, but when her husband threatened to go by himself, Layla gave in. She packed their belongings, prepared their two small children and in the spring of 1987 the family arrived by lorry at the brand new settlement of Tawfiq el Hakim, in Nubariya, 50 kilometres south of Alexandria.

It was hot, dry and dusty. Layla was miserable. She wept every night for two weeks. "Then," she recalled recently, "one day I decided I couldn't weep all my life." She became acquainted with other women in the settlement, joined the women's club, and now helps to run its day-care centre.

The Mohammed family had "a real hard time," said Layla. The farm takes most of her husband's time, nine to 10 hours a day. She misses her family who remained in their hometown, eight hours away by bus. Would she recommend becoming a settler in the desert to her friends? Layla paused, then nodded. "I wouldn't lie and say it's easy," she said, smiling. "I would say

that we are land owners, we have our own house, chicken, rabbits and a cow. It's a completely new way of life."

Nadia Abdul Makky, a plump 14-year-old helping in the day-care centre, clipped in to the conversation. "There is a school, a health clinic and a youth club," she said. "That was unheard of in the old village."

For tens of thousands of Egypt's landless farmers, unemployed graduates and low-level government employees, the new life in the desert brings hope of a better future. For the country, trapped between massive unemployment, an exploding population of 53 million and no remaining arable land, settling in the desert is one solution.

"Land reclamation is a top national priority," said Dr Youssef Wali, Egypt's minister of agriculture and deputy prime minister. In 1989 alone, the authorities expected to reclaim and cultivate 850,000 hectares in the Delta, North Sinai and in Upper Egypt.

Land reclamation does not come cheap. Cement-lined canals to bring water from the Nile, pumping stations, drainage networks, roads, electricity, potable water, sanitation - just the basic infrastructure works - aver-

age \$790 per feddan. The villages spring up on the sandy soil, and their houses, schools, mosques, health clinics, administrative offices, shops and marketing co-operatives add up to a hefty bill. The low prices settlers pay mean the government recovers only half of the land reclamation costs, over many years and without interest. Is it worth it?

"It's our only option," said Dr Adel El-Beltagy, under secretary for land reclamation at the Ministry of Agriculture. "We have to increase food production, provide jobs to ensure sociopolitical stability and spread the population outside the congested Delta. Luckily we are blessed with land to expand."

Increasingly, the government is shifting its strategy to let the private sector bear the costs of land reclamation. "We welcome individual investors and multinational companies," said Dr Youssef Wali. In the current five-year plan to reclaim 315,000 hectares, one-quarter of the land will be allocated to landless farmers and unemployed graduates. The rest will be sold to private investors at market prices ranging between \$850 and \$1,700 for half a feddan.

The World Food Programme (WFP) is helping in this huge and expensive effort. Since 1980, the programme has delivered food aid worth \$4 million to help some 51,000 settlers and their families during their first three to four years. "After the farms start producing enough for consumption and sale, the settlers are on their own," said Farid Oufi, the former WFP director of operations in Egypt. "We don't want them to become dependent on food aid."

The beneficiaries are given wheat, canned meat, cheese, fish, vegetable oil and sugar. The government contributes 25 per cent of the local value of the goods to a fund which is used to finance community development activities: village co-operatives, animal husbandry, training for women and improved housing. Since a new family spends up to 65 per cent of its income on food, the savings are considerable.

Egypt desperately needs to increase its food production. In 1970s, the country exported agricultural produce. Today, it imports \$4,000 million worth of food every year, about 40 per cent of its total imports.

ECONOMY

The Star

IMF and Jordan: The ongoing story

Way paved for standby credits and reschedulings



Finance Minister Jurdaneh

JORDAN HAS received the stamp of approval for its economic adjustment programme by a visiting International Monetary Fund (IMF) team, thereby clearing the way for the continuation of standby credits and debt rescheduling agreements once the Fund's Executive Board finalises the team's findings. Such measures will provide an important boost to Jordan's efforts to manage its \$8 billion debt burden. With a number of important liberalising reforms under its belt and an austerity budget successfully pushed through an elected Parliament, Jordan has shown it can swallow unpopular reforms.

With the successful completion of the IMF's review of the first year of the kingdom's five-year structural adjustment programme, the next trench of the remaining \$77 million in standby credits will be released on schedule, providing Jordan with \$44 million.

More importantly, it will give the green light to debt rescheduling agreements with both official creditors, grouped under the Paris Club, and private banks, through the London Club. About \$640 million worth of payments on official loans due in 1991 will be able to be rescheduled, along with at least a portion of \$450 million in interest due on other foreign loans in 1991.

It will also be easier for Jordan to obtain new loans from sources such as the World Bank, who together with Japan's Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund, is negotiating a major Industry and Trade Adjustment loan, as well as from other lending institutions and official sources.

In addition to reviewing the past year's performance, the IMF team worked out a series of agreements with Jordan on economic performance criteria for the next several years. These targets included a 2.5 per cent real growth rate, limits on the government budget deficit, a stable exchange rate for the dinar and a restriction in the growth of the money supply in order to bring inflation down to a maximum of 10 per cent.

However, the issue of state subsidies continues to be a thorny one. While the IMF would like to see them reduced in order to cut the budget deficit, Amman maintains that this is politically dangerous and is extremely reluctant to see them curtailed.

The series of events which led to Jordan's debt difficulties followed a path taken by a number of other Arab countries. With remittances from workers in the Gulf and foreign aid flowing in during the oil boom years of the 1970s, Jordan became used to a standard of living far outpacing what its domestic productivity alone could support. In the latter half of the 1980s, remittances and aid fell sharply. The Government, not willing to cut expenditures, began resorting to foreign borrowing. By October of 1988,

the Kingdom went into default on some of the servicing payments on its \$8.3 billion debt. It was this crisis that led to Amman's turn to the IMF and its acceptance of the five-year economic adjustment programme. The problems facing the Jordanian economy were formidable. With only 3 million people, Jordan had come to have one of the world's highest debt per capita

NEWS ANALYSIS

ratios. Debt servicing to export revenues ratios were 22 per cent in 1989 and 39 per cent in 1988, well over internationally-recognised safety limits.

The reforms instituted during the past year which were responsible for the IMF's favourable review included a number of liberalising and cost-cutting measures. The two-tier exchange rate for the dinar was abolished in favour of a unified rate. Interest rates were floated, in order to discourage capital flight. Imports were reduced from \$2.7 billion in 1988 to \$2.3 billion in 1989, and exports increased 12 per cent, helping to bring the trade deficit down from \$1.7 billion in 1988 to \$1.2 billion in 1989. Steps were taken to cut the budget deficit, bringing it down from \$163 million to approximately \$103 million in the first six months of 1989. This was achieved through reforms in the tax system and reductions in state expenditure. Jordan will reportedly try to bring the deficit down from its current 20 per cent of GDP to 4 or 5 per cent by 1994.

The austerity budget passed by the Parliament was a major indicator that the country was determined to adhere to IMF reform guidelines. Many deputies had originally campaigned on a platform of reassessing the country's debt servicing burden, and abolishing interest payments. Yet not only was the \$1.7 billion austerity budget passed by the 80-seat Lower House, but an additional \$17.7 million was trimmed off the budget, primarily by cutting administrative budgets in a variety of ministries and depart-

ments. The budget was passed by a 52-16 margin after a 38-hour debate.

The 1990 budget projects a \$530 million deficit, which is expected to be covered by aid and loans. The Government projection of \$360 million in Arab aid grants is considered to be conservative, as Jordan received more than this last year. However, Finance Minister Basal Jarrah has reportedly stated that 35 per cent of any Arab aid coming in will be used for an off-budget military fund. Subsidies will remain at 1989 levels, at roughly \$109 million. Taking into account the decline in the value of the dinar against the dollar, planned spending for the 1990 budget is some 20-25 per cent lower than 1989.

Jordanian officials expect the economy to grow by 2 per cent in 1990, after registering zero growth in 1989 and a 2 per cent contraction in 1988. Yet some economists have asserted that while the austerity budget is very strong on cutting expenditures and meeting various IMF guidelines, it does not provide enough of a prescription for the growth of the economy.

Contributing to the steadily improving debt repayment picture for Jordan, a number of rescheduling agreements have been completed within the last few months. France has agreed to reschedule interest and principal due in 1989 and 1990 on treasury loans of \$5.5 million and on government-guaranteed commercial loans of \$129 million. Repayments will be spread over 10 years with a five-year grace period beginning in 1991, during which only interest will be paid. Interest on treasury loans will be 3 per cent on commercial loans at OECD-agreed commercial rates. Austria has also signed rescheduling agreements with the country.

The Soviet Union agreed to reschedule payments of \$214 million owed by Jordan since 1988 and 1989. Payments of \$168 million will be rescheduled over 12 years at 5 per cent with a six-year grace period in which only interest will be owed. Moscow will accept goods worth \$42 million, including \$20 million worth of phosphate rock, to cover most of the interest and arrears due.

Jordan must still sign bilateral rescheduling accords with Great

Britain, Belgium, Sweden and Kuwait in order to complete a Paris Club deal reached with creditors in July of 1989.

Agreements are also moving forward with private creditors. Commercial banks, grouped in the London Club, agreed to provide \$50 million in fresh loans to offset previously undispensed loans which the banks had refused to release. The banks also agreed to reduce their management fees. The schedule of payment for \$82 million worth of interest in arrears accumulated since the beginning of 1989 was decided upon, with 50 per cent of the interest paid in the first quarter of 1990.

The steering committee of the London Club agreed last November that the new loans would carry an interest rate of 13/16th of a percentage point over LIBOR, to be paid at the end of their three-year term. In March of 1990, Jordan paid the remaining London Club arrears of \$40 million which had been due by the end of 1989. The new money is planned to be at least partly used to cover interest due in 1990.

Total commercial debt is put at \$1.4 billion; this deal affects \$775 million. Previous doubts had been raised by Kuwaiti-based banks, which were owed roughly 25 per cent of the Jordanian commercial debt. The Gulf International Bank BSC of Bahrain and the Standard Chartered Bank of the UK are co-chairmen of the London Club steering committee set up in July of 1989. Other members are Banque Nationale de Paris, Commercial Bank of Kuwait, Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co. of the US and Union des Banques Arabes et Francaises (UBAF).

The relatively small size of Jordan's population and economy is in some ways a blessing; economic reforms tend to have significant effects as many of the problems simply have not reached the gargantuan size of some other Arab countries. Yet, it is clear that continued hardships will have to be endured. The recent moves toward political participation in the Kingdom may prove to be the critical element in galvanizing public support for continued economic adjustment.

MidEast Report

Breweries damaged by Zarqa rioters

Amman (Star)—Rioters caused considerable damage to two large breweries on the outskirts of Zarqa on Tuesday during anti-Israeli demonstrations.

Arab Breweries Co. sources told The Star that rioters attacked the office of the brewery, maker of Hehninger, destroyed windows, empty bottles and stocks. Mr. Saad Abu Jaber of General Investments Co. (Amman) confirmed that the brewery was also attacked where windows were shattered.

He was not sure of the size of the damage suffered by both companies, but said production in the two factories has stopped. Mr. Abu Jaber said an investigation has begun and insurance people have been called to assess the damage.

Briefs

By Ahmad Shaker

● A team from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will visit Amman in June to evaluate progress made by Jordan in its economic re-adjustment plan.

● A conference for Jordanian investors active abroad will be held in Amman in November this year. The conference will call for adjusting foreign investment regulations in the country in addition to introducing special amendments to income tax and customs laws.

● The Ministry of Tourism will introduce a programme to gradually replace foreign labour in the tourism sector by Jordanians. A committee will be formed soon to suggest various labour needs and define labour availability.

● Ministry of Water and Irrigation will adopt immediate measures to control water pumping in Azraq after tests proved that water quality there is deteriorating rapidly due to overpumping.

● Final steps are being taken by the Ministry of Tourism to lease rest houses and other tourist facilities in the Kingdom to local councils and private sector establishments on commercial basis.

● A study is underway by the Ministry of Health to allow parallel market belonging to the government to import basic medicines. Jordan is currently going through a critical shortage in major medicines, usually imported by the private sector.

● Total deposits in commercial banks was estimated at JD 2,670,432 billion by the end of February compared with JD 2,644,586 billion by the end of January; an increase of JD 25,846 million. Resident private sector deposits were JD 2,18.68 billion by the end of February.

Catching them young for tobacco

By Maryam Schiller
Special to The Star

GENEVA - As tobacco markets threaten to go up in smoke, the industry is targeting young people in an increasing number of countries. And with great success, too.

While television campaigns in the industrialised nations claim significant head way in raising public consciousness about the dangers of tobacco use, young people, especially adolescents and school children, are still joining the ranks of smokers. Every day some 3,000 children take up smoking in the USA. In the developing countries, the spread of smoking is inhibited somewhat by the inability of youngsters to afford cigarettes, but it is still considerable.

While the industrial countries count the cost of curing communities of cancer and other tobacco-related diseases, the WHO's campaigners believe the threat can only be countered by promoting what they call "healthy norms" among young people, preferably at the schools. A WHO Tobacco or Health pro-

gramme has given credence to the strategy of addressing three main elements: the classroom (represented by the teacher and curriculum), the ethos of the school's buildings and facilities and the lo-



cal environment (including the family).

But, the experts recognise that there is no one single, proven best way to promote non-smoking and prevent the use of tobacco, "only many inter-related variables that

influence the growth, development and life style of children and young people."

Health education on smoking indeed has progressed. From the 60s on it took a didactic, top-down and victim-blaming stand that often also relied on fear. "Smoking can kill you, it is a major cause of cancer, therefore use the 'scarce approach' showing an overabundance of skulls, tombs, bones and similarly gory scenes. The result of this didactic stance was that smoking rates among children and adolescents kept on not smoke."

This was true of areas other than smoking as well. Even the children's posters exhibited at the 5th World Conference on Smoking and Health in Winnipeg, in 1983, co-related diseases, in the developing countries the rise of such health problems is only now becoming an issue. However, television and media advertising of tobacco still is very common there.

Experts with the World Health Organisation (WHO) believe that the tobacco industry is on the of-

fensive worldwide. To compensate for the large number of adult smokers they lose, because they stop smoking or die, tobacco manufacturers are desperately seeking to "recruit" new smokers. So increasing during the 1960s and 1970s, particularly among girls and young women.

Now a more balanced approach puts emphasis on the positive alternatives to smoking, e.g. healthy, happy life, satisfaction from activities like sports etc. Greater care is given to knowing what the students themselves have reached in their knowledge, attitudes values and skills. This offers them more scope for participation, a key concern in the recommendations made at the World Health Assembly held in Geneva in May 1989.

But the fight against smoking is far from being won. In the developing countries, as in industrial countries with high unemployment, chronic poverty and deterioration of social and family lives are still major causes that drive children and adults alike to tobacco, or the stronger stuff.

Dining out...

Granada Hotel

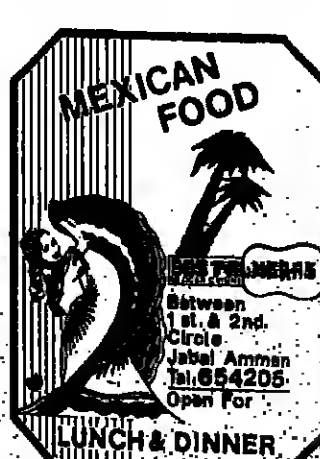
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Deposit Rates

Euro-deposit rates:					
	US	DEM	STG	Yen	SFR
1 mo.	8.1/16	7.13/16	14.15/16	7.22	8.3/4
2 mo.	8.3/16	8.15/16	14.15/16	7.25	8.3/4
3 mo.	8.1/4	8.1/16	14/15/16	7.31	8.3/4
6 mo.	8.1/2	8.5/8	14.7/8	7.43	8.11/16
1 year	8.5/8	8.3/4	14.3/4	7.34	8.11/16

Interbank rates (Jordan):
Savings accounts 7.5%. Call accounts 8%, 1 week 8.0%,
1 month 8.00%, 2 months 8.25%, 3 months 8.50%, 1 year
9.0%. Lending rate (AAA) 12.5%.

Dollar:

DMK	SFR	STG	YEN	CAN	FFR
1.6712/22	1.4170/80	1.6900/10	151.66/71	1.1845/50	5.6265/95

Source: Amman Bank for Investment, Tel: 642701

Arab Finance

Bahrain Housing Bank		Telex: 9388 BESMEH BN
P.O. Box 5370		Cable: BANK ISLAM
Manama		Activities: Banking according to Islamic economic principles.
Telephone: 233321		Established: 1979
Telex: 8599 ESKAN BN		Financial data
Established: March 1979		Authorized capital: BD 23,000,000
Financial data		Paid-up capital: BD 5,750,000
Authorized capital: BD 40,000,000		Shareholders:
Paid-up capital: BD 15,000,000		Bahraini merchants, Ministry of Justice and Islamic Affairs, the General Organisation for Social Insurance, Kuwait Ministry of Finance, Kuwait Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, Kuwait Ministry of Finance, Dubai Islamic Bank, Islamic Development Bank.
Directors:		Directors:
Shaikh Khaled Bin Abdullah Bin Khalid al-Khalifah (Chairman and Minister of Housing)		Abdel-Rahman Mohannad Rashid Al-Khalifah (Chairman)
Abdel-Latif Kanoo (Deputy chairman and Under-secretary, Ministry of Housing)		Khalid Rashid al-Zayani (First deputy chairman).
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P.O. Box 5240		
Manama		
Telephone: 231402		

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Made-in-Jordan

Products from the Dead Sea

MANY JORDANIAN companies have exploited the wealth of the Dead Sea, known for its rich mineral contents, to produce various mineral-rich items ranging from bath salts to shampoos. The N.H. and Partners Company, a Jordanian firm based in Amman, started in 1986 the production of bath salts extracted from the Dead Sea under the brand name "Lisan". The company started to sell its products in the local market and within a few months, was able to open new markets in Europe and the Gulf area. Dead Sea bath salts were met with success in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Sweden, Germany, Italy, and most recently, Canada. After four years of operation, the company is producing a line of mineral-rich cosmetics which include shampoos, mud masque creams and face and body scrub. New export markets are being evaluated on continuous basis through the help of professional bodies such as the Jordan Trade Association.

Gold & Silver

Gold		JD
1kg	8,600,000	
21 ct	7,500	
18 ct	6,500	
Eng. pound	62,000	
8g	54,500	
Rashad:	54,500	
7g	54,500	
24ct (swiss)	9,500	
Silver		
1 kg	160,000	

Money Matters

Average exchange rates on In file		
Sunday 20/5/1990		
Buy	Sell	
US\$	666.0	670.0
£	1118.0	1124.7
DM	406.8	409.2
SFR	475.9	478.8
FRF	120.4	121.1
YEN	435.6	438.2
(100)		
DFL	361.7	363.9
SKR	111.0	111.7
LIT	55.1	55.4
(100)		
BLF	197.0	198.2
(10)		

Financial Market

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY CO.

Established In: (1976)

No. of Employees

Jordanians: 36

Non-Jordanians: 29

Data/Shares: 1988

Par Value/Share: 1

Market Value/Share: 740

Book Value/Share: 988

No. of Subscribed Shares: 969,795

No. of Traded Shares: 114,815

Volume of Trading (J.Ds): 82,282

No. of Floor Contracts 93

Market Value of Subscribed Shares: 717,648

Authorized Capital: 1,250,000

Subscribed Capital: 969,795

Paid-in-Capital: 969,795

Compulsory Reserves: 20,349

Voluntary Reserves: 13,573

Retained Earnings: (45,985)

Shareholders' Equity: 957,732

Working Capital (JDS) 119,938

Total Assets: 1,839,405

Total Liabilities & Shareholder's Equity: 1,839,405

Net Sales (Revenues): 1,925,709

Net Income After Taxes: (113,485)

Source: Amman Financial Market

Business Notes

Jordan's export competitiveness

ONE OF the major challenges to Jordan today is initiating and expanding the exports of the country's goods and services to enhance foreign exchange reserves and generate jobs.

There is no reason why Jordan should not become a healthy exporter of a wide variety of goods in the 90s, but certain conditions will first have to be met. There is significant excess capacity in the country, and this will have to be utilised in order to reduce costs.

Jordan's comparative advantage lies in the quality and cost of its labour and the infrastructural support given to industry. Raw materials, if obtained at appropriate world prices, could be combined with the above to produce competitive exports.

However, "Without a change in the policy-making environment Jordan will not reach its full potential," according to John Short and Stuart Cruickshank, two American consultants on a visit to the country.

The job of the government should be to help the private sector, and this can best be done by liberalisation. After all, too many rules and regulations greatly contribute to higher costs.

Industrial Estates

Universal Industries Co.

Location: Amman Industrial Estate/Sahab
Invested Capital: JD 1.5 million
Number of Workers: 100
Production starting date: Mid of 1987

Type of Production

- Canned food with a production rate of 12 million cans per year and exporting about 15 % to the Arab countries
- Orange juice with a production rate of 200,000 bottles
- Toothpastes, shaving creams and moisturising creams with a production rate of 1 million unit per year.
- Air fresheners with a production rate of 100,000 units per year.

Universal Industries Co.

Tel: 722501 - 2

P.O. Box: (5)

Amman Industrial Estate / Sahab

Zaza Industrial Est.

Location: Amman Industrial Estate/Sahab
Invested Capital: JD 150,000
Number of Workers: 19
Production starting date: Last quarter of 1989

Type of Production

- Sunglasses with a production rate of 1500 - 3000 sunglasses per month, mainly covering the local market. The company is working to export its products to the neighbouring Arab countries.

Zaza Industrial Est.

Tel: 722224

P.O. Box: (151280)

Amman

Shows & Exhibitions

BAHRAIN HOSTS MIDEAST DEFENCE EXHIBIT

BAHRAIN IS hosting the first Middle East Defence and Security Exhibition and Conference (MEDDEF 91) to be held 28-31 October 1991 at the new purpose built Bahrain Exhibition Centre.

MEDDEF 91 has the full support of the Bahrain government and is being held under the auspices of the Ministries of Defence and Interior.

The exhibition will introduce a comprehensive range of equipment and technology for the region's defence forces, police, internal and border security services, militia and para-military who will be officially invited to attend from throughout the Middle East.

MEDDEF 91 takes place against a background of continued commitment by Bahrain to its national defence capabilities reflected in a continued investment of US\$60 million.

Further information from Overseas Exhibitor Services, 11, Marston Road, London W1M 3AB, U.K. Tel: 044 71 4861951, Fax: 044 71 931 444, Telex: 24591 MONTXO.

Contracts and contacts

TN: Tender Number; TD: Price of Tender Documents; BB: value of Bid Bond; DS: Deadline for Sale of Tender Documents; JD: Date Sale of Tender Documents Begins; SB: Deadline for Submission of Bids; BO: Date Bids are Opened.

- University of Jordan, 13/90, PC equipment and accessories and PC maintenance equipment, JD 5, 4/6/1990.

- Mutah University, 11/90, 1.D. photocopier; 12/90, voltage systemizer equipment, JD 3, 26/5/1990.

- University of Science and Technology, 4/90 MF, chemical materials and glassware, JD 5, 2/5/1990.

- Jordan Cement Factories Co, 11/90, transporting 75,000 tonnes of fuel oil (250-300 tonnes/day) from Zerga to Fuhls, 22/5/1990.

- Marriott Hotel, renovating 90 rooms at the Hotel, maintenance section, TD: JD 50, DS: 15/5/1990.

- Directorate of Education/Dair Alla District, TN: 2/90, renovating school buildings, BB: JD 300, TD: JD 10; TN: 3/90, maintenance and asphalt mixes for school rooftops, BB: JD 100, TD: JD 5; TN: 4/90, metal barrier for Al-Sawalha school, BB: JD 200, TD: JD 10; TN: 5/90, health unit for Dair Alla School, BB: JD 150, TD: JD 10; TN: 6/90, protection iron for Rural Development Centre, BB: JD 50, TD: JD 1; TN: 8/90, constructing a playground for Tal Al-Ramel School, BB: JD 50, TD: JD 5; DD: 15/5/1990 (all); DS: 29/5/1990 (all); SB: 30/5/1990 (all).

- Civil Aviation Authority, TN: 13/90, tyres, Technical Procurement Division, TD: JD 5, BB: 5 per cent of bid, SB: 26/5/1990.

- University of Science and Technology, TN: 14/90, microprocessor and micro computer laboratory equipment for Electrical Engineering Division, TD: JD 15, BB: 5 per cent of bid, SB: 27/5/1990, DO: 28/5/1990.

- Jordan Electricity Authority, TN: 20/90, lathing and manufacturing materials, Supplies Division, BB: 5 per cent of bid, SB: 30/5/1990.

- Jordan Cement Factories Co, TN: 13/90, spare parts for chain conveyors, TD: JD 10, BB: 5 per cent of bid, SB: 18/6/1990.

- Natural Resources Authority, TN: 41/90, 30 tons of calcium chloride, new SB: 31/5/1990; TN: 43/90, 7 piston parts, new SB: 31/5/1990; TN: 40/90, drill er parts, new SB: 31/5/1990; TN: 145/89 well heads, new SB: 7/6/1990; TN: 179/89, rock bits, new SB: 7/6/1990; TN: 144/89, casing pipes, new SB: 7/6/1990.

- Greater Amman Municipality, TN: 90/34, small shaking rollers, BB: JD 1500, TD: JD 20; SB: 18/6/1990; TN: 90/35, U.L.V. watering equipment, BB: 800, TD: JD 10, SB: 18/6/1990; TN: 90/36, insecticides sprinkling tractors, BB: JD 1400, TD: 20, SB: 18/6/1990; TN: 90/37, small size loaders, BB: JD 2400, TD: JD 30, SB: 18/6/1990; TN: 90/38, asphalt cutting saws, BB: JD 600, TD: JD 10, SB: 18/6/1990; TN: 90/39, pipe and walk-in bridges, BB: JD 5,000, TD: JD 80, SB: 28/8/1990.

- Central Tenders/Government Tenders Dept, construction of schools in Zerga Governorate, Seventh Educational Project, TN: 14/90, Al-Zawhara School, area 4,300 sq.m., TD: JD 100;

TN: 15/90, Prince Talal School and Jamna'a School, area 8,600 sq.m., TD: JD 150, DD: 13/5/1990 (all); DS: 21/6/1990; SB: 30/6/1990.

- Dallahga Village Council/ Ma'an Governorate, paving of village roads, area 8,500 sq.m., TD: JD 10, BO: 27/5/1990, BB: JD 800.

- Urban Development Dept, TN: 12/W2/90, Second North Russell-Housing Project (2B), TD: JD 200, SB: 17/6/1990, BB: JD 40,000, BO: 17/6/1990.

- Natural Resources Authority, TN: 65/90, 200 litres of hydrochloric acid, TD: JD 5; TN: 66/90, phyanol (2,000 American gallons); BB: 5 per cent of bid; SB: 31/5/1990.

- Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co, TN: Works/3/90, concrete steps for the Third Housing Area, TD: JD 5, SB: 27/5/1990.

- Al-Ashrafyah Municipality, investment in Abu Zableh Mineral Hummeh Water and asphaltting a 6-k.m. road, SB: 31/5/1990.

- Ministry of Tourism, air conditioners for the Aqaba Visitors Centre, TD: JD 10, BB: 10 per cent of bid, SB: 26/5/1990.

- Ministry of Water and Irrigation/Water Authority, TN: L11/90, drilling bits, TD: JD 25, SB: 2/6/1990.

- General Supplies Dept, TN: 56/90, school chalks, TD: JD 10, SB: 4/6/1990; TN: 142/90, stationery, publication and office supplies, TD: JD 7, SB: 4/6/1990; TN: 148/90, metal and wooden furniture and ceiling fans, TD: JD 2, SB: 2/6/1990; TN: 155/90, revolving dresser chair, TD: JD 3, SB: 2/6/1990; TN: 158/90, female education workshop equipment, TD: JD 5, SB: 4/6/1990; TN: 161/90, household appliances, TD: JD 10, SB: 4/6/1990; TN: 172/90, printing paper (weight 80 grams, measure 21 x 29.7 cm.), TD: JD 2, SB: 2/6/1990; TN: 171/90, (6) fucsimile sets, TD: JD 4, SB: 9/6/1990; TN: 167/90, Xerox copier, and electrical sweepers and refrigerators, TD: JD 2, SB: 4/6/1990.

- National Medical Institution, materials and supplies for physio-medical therapy, Procurement Dept, SB: 25/6/1990, TD: JD 25, BB: 5 per cent of bid.

- Ballala Municipality, paving of roads, TD: JD 10, BO: 27/5/1990, BB: 5 per cent of bid.

- Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co, TN: Sale/1/90, red copper wires, SB: 27/5/1990.

- Public Security Directorate, computer sets for training purposes, SB: 3/6/1990.

- Jordan Phosphate Mines Co, TN: 11F/90, paper bags, TD: JD 20; TN: 12F/90, plastic covers, TD: JD 5; TN: 13F/90, wood, TD: JD 15; Head of Procurement Division; DS: 14/6/1990 (all); SB: 23/6/1990 (all).

- Irbid District Electricity Co, TN: 3/90, two diesel double cabin pick-ups (5 passengers, load: 2 tons), TD: JD 5, SB: 2/6/1990.

- Public Security Directorate/ Building Administration, construction of a wing for Air Public Security Command, TD: JD 20, DD: 26/5/1990, SB: 9/6/1990, Studies Division/Buildings Administration.

- General Supplies Dept, TN: 52/90, fodders, TD: JD 4, SB: 5/6/1990; TN: 70/90, water tanks, TD: JD 2, SB: 28/5/1990; TN: 140/90, medical equipment spare parts and electrical tools and equipment, TD: JD 10, SB: 23/6/1990; TN: 145/90, spare parts for overhauling a caterpillar (D4) bulldozer, TD: JD 2, SB: 12/6/1990; TN: 162/90, fertilizers and agricultural supplies, TD: JD 25, SB: 16/6/1990; TN: 170/90, plastic bags, plastic sheets and agricultural shading fences, TD: JD 10, SB: 9/6/1990; TN: 173/90, publications, TD: JD 10, SB: 11/6/1990; TN: 174/90, fucsimile rolls for aviation maps, TD: JD 2, SB: 2/6/1990; TN: 175/90, density supplies, TD: JD 25, SB: 12/6/1990; TN: 185/90, micro-computer equipment, printing machinery and stencil machinery, TD: JD 10, SB: 9/6/1990.



T. Gargour & Fils

Agents for Mercedes Benz

Announces the inauguration of its new Sales and Service Centre under the Patronage of

His Majesty King Hussein

on Saturday May 26th, 1990

On this occasion the company apologises to its customers for not being able to receive them on Saturday May 26th until Sunday May 27th morning.

Our Say

Beware of inciters

THE PROTEST marches which took place in Jordan in the past few days were natural demonstrations of fury against the crimes which were perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities in the occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank, the last of which was the gunning down of eight Arab workers near Tel Aviv.

The demonstrations were a spontaneous response conducted under the umbrella of democracy. But in some cases, the demonstrators tried to express their feelings in an unacceptable manner. Instead of voicing their wrath against the Israeli criminal acts, they behaved as if Jordan has to pay the price for what the Israelis had done.

To begin with, the attack against the bus transporting French tourists was totally unjustified. It was an act which served the Israeli sinister designs in the first place and harmed Jordan in many ways. The incident diverted attention from the barbaric crime, committed by the Israeli soldier against the innocent Arab labourers and the series of crimes carried out by the Israeli occupation troops against the defenceless Palestinians. It was an act that deserved prompt condemnation.

People are called upon to express their anger over the Israeli crimes in a civilised manner. Special care should be taken to avoid any encroachment on Jordan's precarious position.

This country, which is more exposed to the Israeli danger than any other Arab state, should be protected against being shaken by internal turmoil. Jordan's steadfastness provides the greatest service to the heroic uprising of the Palestinians in the occupied territories. It is within Jordan that the Intifada finds its utmost support and means of continuation.

Political groups in Jordan should intervene in such cases to calm down tempers and bring youths to reason. These youths need to be told that their actions do not serve the cause of the Palestinian people but rather tend to harm an Arab country which has dedicated all its energies to serve this cause and promote it at all local, regional and international levels.

Jordan is also passing through harsh economic conditions which are bound to reflect on the behaviour of people, especially the youth. Riots and irresponsible actions can only make things worse at a time when economic recovery is progressing, though at a slow pace. The last thing that Jordan needs is instability. The most urgent need is for wisdom, self-restraint and steadfastness in the face of enemy schemes. This is how the Palestinian cause can best be served.

On the other hand, Jordanians must be aware that inciters who provoke and encourage riots can easily lead them into situations where confrontation with the authorities becomes inevitable. Those who provoke such incidents are not doing so to support the Intifada or the Palestinian cause. Their goal is clear and that is to undermine this country's stability and security. Only Israel benefits from such outcomes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It is time we saw the truth

To the editor:

THE ONE and only message that the Arabs should understand from the recent massacre of innocent Arab labourers by an Israeli ex-soldier in occupied Palestine is that peace with Israel in light of the prevailing imbalance of power is nothing more than a groundless dream.

Israel will continue to pursue its plans of creating greater Israel at the expense of Arab rights and lands unless it is convinced beyond doubt that the Arab Nation has the necessary power to abort such schemes.

The strongest words of condemnation and all United Nations resolutions will not force Israel to make any territorial or even political concessions to the Arabs.

The Arab governments and the Palestine Liberation Organisation have made clear, and sometimes humiliating calls for peace with the Zionist entity, but what gains have we made from all that? More Palestinians are being killed in cold blood every day, and Israel is growing more intransigent in its rejection of all peaceful settlements.

It should not take the Arab governments more time to discover that Israel will make peace only with an able and powerful enemy - an enemy that can answer in all the languages with which it is addressed. It is time we opened our eyes to this fact and acted accordingly.

Fadi Hussain,
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by Osama El-Sherif

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This week's events inside and outside the occupied areas will have to be studied carefully by observers because they collectively point to a dramatic change in Arab mood and to a dangerous anarchy inside the Israeli society. One main feature of this week's events is the increased radicalisation of various parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Those who are studying the repercussions of Israel's recent crimes against unarmed Palestinians would have to conclude a number of facts, foremost among which is that the Palestinian Intifada is being transformed at a rapid pace from being a phenomenon unique to Palestinians inside the occupied territories into an established way of life that is finding its way into the Israeli state and its 700,000 so-called Israeli Arabs.

Israeli policies have been the main cause of this important development, which will radicalise further the Israeli society and its military establishment, while injecting the Intifada with new blood. In the aftermath of Sunday's execution of eight Gaza workers near Tel Aviv, the Arab cities of Nazareth, Um Al Fahem, Al Tabeih and other centres of Arab population inside Israel and across the so-called Green Line defied the Israeli authorities and conducted Intifada-style civil disobedience in sympathy with their slaughtered brothers from Gaza.

In addition to this and until reports which implicated Ariel Sharon and four Israeli officers in masterminding the Sunday massacre are confirmed, one has to assume that the general mood in Israel is being slowly geared towards fanaticism against the Palestinians with elicited official incitement. This process, whose final results cannot but lead to an ugly wave of fascism directed against the Arabs, will only succeed in refueling the Intifada, radicalising the Arabs, destroying the remaining chances of peace and compromise and pushing this part of the world into an abyss of war and destruction. If this is how the Israeli mind works today - by relishing on cold-blooded murders of Arabs in the street - then why blame the Arab countries for arming themselves and preparing for war with Israel?

The rage which swept through the Arab World will not easily pass us by. The Arabs have been watching the Palestinian Intifada defying single-handedly one of the most vicious colonial powers in modern history, while the general mood of the leadership has been calling for peace with this very power. And while Israel has flat-

ly rejected all peace offerings, responding to them by intensifying its killing spree in the occupied areas and bragging about a greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates, the Arab mood has been going through muted psychological transformation, which has exploded into the open during this week.

The most important change occurred among the intellectuals, the majority of whom are considered moderates; calling for mutual co-existence and a peaceful settlement based on international laws and UN resolutions. The moderates may soon fade away from the larger picture as diplomacy proves impotent in forcing peace upon the Israelis.

It is here that the two superpowers and the European Community must intervene. At a time when the United States and the Soviet Union are defusing regional conflicts from Central Europe to South Africa, the Middle East remains a dangerous time bomb ticking its way to imminent explosion. The out break of war in this part of the world will definitely affect the stability of the whole region with its oil fields, water passages and strategic borders. It will be a war where the combatants will have easy access not only to sophisticated conventional



weapons, but also to nuclear chemical and biological weapons. The question to ask is why allow the area to be dragged into such a destructive path when such a process can be avoided?

The United States and the US Congress must come to grips with the fact that sponsoring Israel in such a blind and foolish manner makes the American people accomplices in Israel's bloody crimes against the Palestinian people. By declaring their unequivocal support of Israeli policies and actions, by bankrolling the illegal settlements in the occupied territories and by giving Israel enough reason to reject peace proposals and violate international laws, the US Congress becomes more than morally obligated to Israel. It is now directly responsible for every child, woman and man who fall dead or injured in the streets of Gaza or the alleys of Nablus and Hebron. No legal pretext or political statement can change this gloomy fact, especially for the daily victims of the cycle of violence.

Time may be running out for fresh political initiatives and volleys of proposals and counter proposals from the various parties to this sad conflict. I fear we are heading towards a treacherous road where fundamentalism and radicalism on all sides will replace the faint voices of moderation. Israel is leading us all into this road because for the first time in many years there is nothing but despair around us. If America's politicians can't hear, then make them hear and if they do not want to see, force them to see. The rage of the past few days will have to open their eyes.

Food for thought: Agriculture in Jordan

By Riad Al Khouri

ONE OF the saddest manifestations of the Jordanian economic crisis is the deterioration of the agricultural sector. In the 1950's Jordan was a green and fertile land. Many agricultural products were produced and even exported. Today, the farms around Amman are being gobbled up in an urban sprawl while livestock is at less than half its level 30 years ago and water sources are endangered. The latter in particular is a problem for both domestic and agricultural use.

It is obvious that Jordan must rationalise water consumption. The total amount of water used for domestic purposes in the country is estimated at 180 million cubic metres annually and this is expected to rise continuously due to population growth.

For this reason, Jordan will have to seek new water resources and control consumption. An estimated 350 million cubic metres are annually used in agriculture, but more water supplies will be needed if agricultural projects are to be expanded.

Since the beginning of this month Jordan started implementing a water distribution programme in view of the expected increase in consumption in the summer and the arrival of vacationers in the coming months. Work is going ahead on a pressurised water network in the Jordan Valley to replace the open canal system and avoid excessive waste of irrigation water from evaporation. By the end of the second phase of the current project (expected to be finished before the end of 1990) near 20 per cent of the normal loss of water will be saved. (The first phase is expected to cost JD 10 million while the second is expected to reach JD 18 million). Three dams (Mujib, Waleh and Tannour) are now being built and, when completed, will together hold some 60 million cubic metres of water for irrigation, industry and domestic purposes. (These projects are expected to cost up to JD 40 million).

At present, the King Talal Dam, the Wadi Al Arab dam and the Sharhabil Dam together hold 65 million cubic metres of water, of which 40 million will be used for irrigation during the coming summers. As for the Wahdeh Dam (on the Yarmouk River near the Syrian border) contacts are still underway with various international financial institutions to ensure funds for the expected JD 200 million project. Once completed, the Wahdeh Dam is

expected to hold back 250 million cubic metres of which 50 million (c/m) can be used annually for domestic purposes and 15 million (c/m) for farming.

Other available options include searching further for underground water resources or importing water from other countries, processes that could become necessary in view of increasing needs.

The Ministry of Water and Irrigation is in close co-operation with the Ministry of Health to try to control the quality of water in the dams and to reduce the level of contamination, particularly in the Zarqa River.

Treated wastewater in the Zarqa River (where waste is dumped by factories), can be used for irrigation only. But close monitoring of the water has revealed that some factories dump waste in the river or do not follow proper treatment procedures and

neighbouring Gulf states. Fruits and vegetables have become a major source of foreign exchange for Jordan. And recent economic policy changes have made the kingdom even more competitive in foreign markets.

Like other rapidly developing countries, new economic and social conditions are producing pressures for changes. Rapid population growth, concentration of the population in cities, a better transportation and communication infrastructure, dramatic improvements in production technology and efficiency along with growing demands for higher quality products by consumers in domestic as well as foreign markets, are the major factors producing pressures for change in the agricultural system.

But for the next several years, due to rapid population and income growth and urbanisation, coupled with our current balance of payments crisis, change in government rules and regulations will have to be dramatic to face up to the need to expand agriculture. In Greece, for example, new policy has allowed boosts to fresh produce exports. The freeing of the export trade and the unhindered operation of the market brought exports of fresh agricultural products to unprecedented levels during the past year.

The Greek government's policy to limit state intervention provided exporters with the opportunity to act on their own initiative; the result was that orange exports, for example, reached over 340,000 tons by April 40 per cent above the previous record (and other commodities also did well).

There is no reason why Jordan shouldn't go for a 100% free trade in fruits and vegetables as well as other products.

Jordan's agricultural potential is enormous but so are current problems. Once again, a key to the issue is deregulation; allowing the private sector to go out and do what it has to do will be the best help the government can extend to businessmen.

Otherwise, the balance of payments will swing further into the red, and the future will be black instead of green.



make water unfit even for farming.

So, given enough water, will be country's agricultural problems be solved? No: water by itself is necessary but not sufficient for more food to be produced in Jordan.

According to a study completed in December by Messrs K. Harrison, S. Habib, A. Zu'bi and A. Jabarin on fruit and vegetable markets in the country: "It comes as no surprise that the fruit and vegetable marketing system is not performing efficiently and effectively. Some of the explanation is that the old institutional and legal framework is not adequate nor appropriate for the new economic reality, a fairly normal outcome of the economic growth process which has been rapid in Jordan."

In the public interest, it is clearly time for some changes in the institutional framework to face the challenges of the coming decade. Agriculture has developed rapidly in response to demand from domestic markets as well as exports to the

VIEW POINT BY YACOB JABER

What peace!!

FOLLOWING BLACK Sunday's massacres in the occupied Arab territories, the question which haunts people everywhere in the Arab World is: Are peace and co-existence possible with fascist Zionist entity in Palestine? Has Israel left a venue, no matter how small it might be, through which peace can be earnestly sought?

Sunday's massacre against innocent Palestinians is not the first cold-blooded murder committed by Israel and will not be the last. The series of massacres perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinians can never be forgiven or forgotten by Palestinian generations. The Israelis have done all they could to prevent Palestinians from forgetting, thus closing all venues to eventual peaceful co-existence in the land of peace.

Sunday's events have again demonstrated beyond doubt that Israel is a terrorist state committed to the persecution of non-Jews who stand in its way. The Palestinians are the victims of this clear-cut racism simply because their country has been chosen by the Zionists to become the land of Israel.

Terrorism in Israel is widespread and practised at the highest level of the Israeli hierarchy. Sunday's events prove this and raise many serious questions about an eventual peace settlement whereby Israelis and Palestinians can live in peaceful co-existence in two neighbouring states.

The barbaric attack carried out by an Israeli soldier against Arab workers was soon followed by cold-blooded shooting by Israeli troops of Palestinians who took to the streets in a spontaneous reaction against the killing.

The crime which was carried out by the Israeli soldier was started by regular soldiers taking orders from their superiors. It was a day that will always be remembered by Palestinians who yearn for peace but find all roads to it closed by adamant Israeli intransigence and continued thirst for Palestinian blood.

The problem does not lie with Israel alone. It is also deeply connected with the foreign powers which give total support to the Jewish state without questioning its behaviour and sinister intentions. When a superpower such as the United States protects Israel at the UN Security Council from being condemned for its repulsive actions and equalizes between the killer and the victim by calling on both Israel and the Palestinians for self-restraint, thus giving open encouragement to the Israelis to continue the indiscriminate killing and the blocking of all roads to peace. Is peace possible under these circumstances?

Washington will insist that peace is possible, and even Israel may say the same. We say no!



Slaughtered workers: Victims of a mad scheme

Israel's bloody Sunday

This Sunday's massacre in Rishon LeZion, which was perpetrated by senior Israeli officers and Ariel Sharon, and was carried out by 21-year-old Ami Popper, resulted in the cold-blooded death of at least eight Arab workers from Gaza. Fifteen others were wounded. But most of all the criminal act was the spark which inflamed the Intifada and took it for the first time inside Israel (1948) where heavy clashes took place on Monday between Israeli soldiers and Arabs in Nazareth and other villages.



The murderer who Israel is trying to portray as a rogue

The Star

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The most important change occurred among the intellectuals, the majority of whom are considered moderates; calling for mutual co-existence and a peaceful settlement based on international laws and UN resolutions. The moderates may now fade away from the larger picture as diplomacy proves impotent in forcing peace upon the Israelis.

It is here that the two superpowers and the European Community must intervene. At a time when the United States and the Soviet Union are defusing regional conflicts from Central Europe to South Africa and from Central America to West Asia, the Middle East remains a dangerous time bomb ticking its way to imminent explosion. The out break of war in this part of the world will definitely affect the stability of the whole region with its oil fields, water passages and strategic borders. It will be a war where the combatants will have easy access not only to sophisticated conventional



weapons, but also to nuclear chemical and biological weapons. The question to ask is why allow the area to be dragged into such a destructive path when such a process can be averted?

The United States and the US Congress must come to grips with the fact that sponsoring Israel in such a biased and foolish manner makes the

American people accomplices in Israeli bloody crimes against the Palestinian people. By declaring their unequivocal support of Israeli policies and actions, by bankrolling the illegal settlements in the occupied territories and by giving Israel enough reason to reject peace proposals and violate international laws, the US Congress becomes more than morally obligated to Israel. It is now directly responsible for every child, woman and man who fall dead or injured in the streets of Gaza or the alleys of Nablus and Hebron. No legal pretext or political statement can change this gloomy fact; especially for the daily victims of the cycle of violence.

Time may be running out for fresh political initiatives and volleys of proposals and counter proposals from the various parties to this sad conflict. I fear we are heading towards a treacherous road where fundamentalism and radicalism on all sides will replace the faint voices of moderation. Israel is leading us all into this road because for the first time in many years there is nothing but despair around us. If America's politicians can't hear, then make them hear and if they do not want to see, force them to see. The rage of the past few days will have to open their eyes.

Food for thought: Agriculture in Jordan

By Riad Al Khouri

ONE OF the saddest manifestations of the Jordanian economic crisis is the deterioration of the agricultural sector. In the 1950s Jordan was a green and fertile land. Many agricultural products were produced and even exported. Today, the farms around Amman are being gobbled up in an urban sprawl while livestock is at less than half its level 30 years ago and water sources are endangered. The latter in particular is a problem for both domestic and agricultural use.

It is obvious that Jordan must rationalise water consumption. The total amount of water used for domestic purposes in the country is estimated at 180 million cubic metres annually and this is expected to rise continuously due to population growth.

For this reason, Jordan will have to seek new water resources and control consumption. An estimated 350 million cubic metres are annually used in agriculture, but more water supplies will be needed if agricultural projects are to be expanded.

Since the beginning of this month Jordan started implementing a water distribution programme in view of the expected increase in consumption in the summer and the arrival of vacationers in the coming months. Work is going ahead on a pressurised water network in the Jordan Valley to replace the open canal system and avoid excessive waste of irrigation water from evaporation. By the end of the second phase of the current project (expected to be finished before the end of 1990) near 20 per cent of the normal loss of water will be saved. (The first phase is expected to cost JD 10 million while the second is expected to reach JD 18 million). Three dams (Mujib, Waleh and Tamour) are now being built and, when completed, will together hold some 60 million cubic metres of water for irrigation, industry and domestic purposes. (These projects are expected to cost up to JD 40 million).

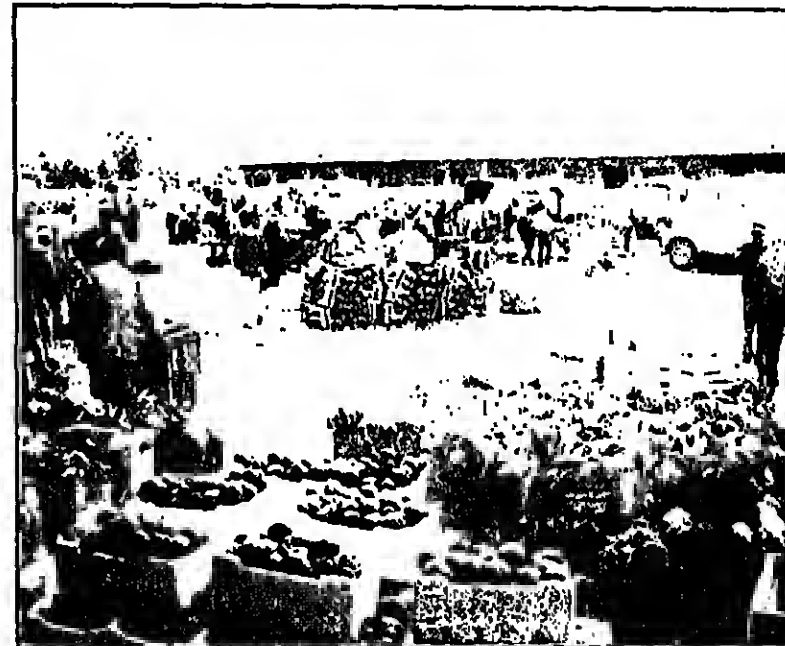
At present, the King Talal Dam, the Wadi Al Arab dam and the Sharhabil Dam together hold 65 million cubic metres of water, of which 40 million will be used for irrigation during the coming summers. As for the Waleh Dam (on the Yarmouk River near the Syrian border) contacts are still underway with various international financial institutions to ensure funds for the expected JD 200 million project. Once completed, the Waleh Dam is

expected to hold back 250 million cubic metres of which 50 million (c/m) can be used annually for domestic purposes and 15 million (c/m) for farming.

Other available options include searching further for underground water resources or importing water from other countries, processes that could become necessary in view of increasing needs.

The Ministry of Water and Irrigation is in close co-operation with the Ministry of Health to try to control the quality of water in the dams and to reduce the level of contamination, particularly in the Zarqa River.

Treated wastewater in the Zarqa River (where waste is dumped by factories), can be used for irrigation only. But close monitoring of the water has revealed that some factories dump waste in the river or do not follow proper treatment procedures and



make water unfit even for farming.

So, given enough water, will the country's agricultural problems be solved? No: water by itself is necessary but not sufficient for more food to be produced in Jordan.

According to a study completed in December by Messrs K. Harrison, S. Habib, A. Zubri and A. Jaber on fruit and vegetable markets in the country: "It comes as no surprise that the fruit and vegetable marketing system is not performing efficiently and effectively. Some of the explanation is that the old institutional and legal framework is not adequate nor appropriate for the new economic reality," a fairly normal outcome of the economic growth process which has been rapid in Jordan.

In the public interest, it is clearly time for some changes in the institutional framework to face the challenges of the coming decade. Agriculture has developed rapidly in response to demand from domestic markets as well as exports to the

neighbouring Gulf states. Fruits and vegetables have become a major source of foreign exchange for Jordan. And recent economic policy changes have made the kingdom even more competitive in foreign markets.

Like other rapidly developing countries, new economic and social conditions are producing pressures for changes. Rapid population growth, concentration of the population in cities, a better transportation and communication infrastructure, dramatic improvements in production technology and efficiency along with growing demands for higher quality products by consumers in domestic as well as foreign markets, are the major factors producing pressures for change in the agricultural system.

But for the next several years, due to rapid population and income growth and urbanisation, coupled with our current balance of payments crisis, change in government rules and regulations will have to be dramatic to face up to the need to expand agriculture.

In Greece, for example, new policy has allowed boosts to fresh produce exports. The freeing of the export trade and the brought exports of fresh agricultural products to unprecedented levels during the past year.

The Greek government's policy to limit state intervention provided exporters with the opportunity to act on their own initiative; the result was that orange exports, for example, reached over 340,000 tons by April 40 per cent above the previous record (and other commodities also did well).

There is no reason why Jordan shouldn't go for a 100% free trade in fruits and vegetables as well as other products. Jordan's agricultural potential is enormous but so are current problems. Once again, a key to the issue is deregulation; allowing the private sector to go out and do what it has to do will be the best help the government can extend to businessmen.

Otherwise, the balance of payments will swing further into the red, and the future will be black instead of green.



VIEW POINT BY YACOB JABER

What peace!!

FOLLOWING BLACK Sunday's massacres in the occupied Arab territories, the question which haunts people everywhere in the Arab World is: Are peace and co-existence possible with fascist Zionism in Palestine? Has Israel left a venue, no matter how small it might be, through which peace can be earnestly sought?

Sunday's massacre against innocent Palestinians is not the first cold-blooded murder committed by Israel and will not be the last. The series of massacres perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinians can never be forgiven or forgotten by Palestinian generations. The Israelis have done all they could to prevent Palestinians from forgetting, thus closing all avenues to eventual peaceful co-existence in the land of peace.

Sunday's events have again demonstrated beyond doubt that Israel is a terrorist state committed to the persecution of non-Jews who stand in its way. The Palestinians are the victims of this clear-cut racism simply because their country has been chosen by the Zionists to become the land of Israel.

Terrorism in Israel is widespread and practised at the highest level of the Israeli hierarchy. Sunday's events prove this and raise many serious questions about an eventual peace settlement whereby Israelis and Palestinians can live in peaceful co-existence in two neighbouring states.

The barbaric attack carried out by an Israeli soldier against Arab workers was soon followed by cold-blooded shooting by Israeli troops of Palestinians who took to the streets in an spontaneous reaction against the killing.

The crime which was started by the Israeli soldier was carried on by regular soldiers taking orders from their superiors. It was a day that will always be remembered by Palestinians who yearn for peace but find all roads to it closed by adamant Israeli intransigence and continued thirst for Palestinian blood.

The problem does not lie with Israel alone. It is also deeply connected with the foreign powers which give total support to the Jewish state without questioning its behaviour and sinister intentions. When a superpower such as the United States protects Israel at the UN Security Council from being condemned for its repulsive actions and qualifies between the killer and the victim by calling on both Israel and the Palestinians for self-restraint, thus giving open encouragement to the Israelis to continue the indiscriminate killing, and the blocking of all roads to peace.

Is peace possible under these circumstances?

Washington will insist that peace is possible, and even Israel may say the same. We say no!

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Slaughtered workers: Victims of a mad scheme

24 MAY 1990

Israel's bloody Sunday

This Sunday's massacre in Rishon LeZion, which was perpetrated by senior Israeli officers and Ariel Sharon, was carried out by 21-year-old Ami Popper resulted in the cold-blooded death of at least eight Arab workers from Gaza. Fifteen others were wounded. But most of all the criminal act was the spark which inflamed the Intifada and took it for the first time 'inside Israel' (1948) where heavy clashes took place on Monday between Israeli soldiers and Arabs in Nazareth and other villages.



The murderer who Israel is trying to portray as a rogue

Insight

Dr. Nabil Al-Sharif

Israel and Jordan's political transformation

ZIONIST CIRCLES are clearly engaged in a smear campaign aimed at destabilizing Jordan's democratic life, and portraying it as a sign of confusion and disarray that is not going to survive the test of time. The clearest sign of decay in Jordan's democracy—according to these Zionist circles, is the fact that Jordanian society is moving to the right of the political pendulum and that Islamic tendencies are gaining ground in our country.

There Zionist circles tend to overlook in their narrow-minded bigotry that Islamic tendencies are not alien to the fabric of our society. Our society has always been a God-fearing one with a clear support for an authentic form of government that does not impose outside factors on the nation in its genuine aspiration for freedom, independence, and economic and political integrity.

If the Islamic tendencies promise to provide our society with these treasured goals, then, our average citizen would argue—why not give a try, especially that all other political alternatives have failed to provide any viable option.

The Zionist circles, however, have a reason to be angered and enraged at the steady democratic transformation in Jordan. It is also quite understandable that the Zionist circles would always try to fish in dirty waters in a futile attempt to sow doubt in Jordan's democratic life. Israel, after all, has long prided itself for being the only (democracy) in a desert of totalitarianism and dictatorship. And it is expected that Jordan's alternative of a true and genuine democratic life would rob Israel of its role and show it as a morally break-up society that should have no claim to democracy in the very least.

It is also quite astonishing to recall that the Zionist media were waging this smear campaign against Jordan and other Arab countries before Jordan takes its daring step in the direction of democratic transformation. And the fact that this campaign of hate grew more intense in the wake of Jordan's democratic change only reveals the fact that Israel is opposed to Jordan's democratic life. This should prompt us all to exert every possible effort to safeguard our treasured democratic transformation.

A discreet hearing for voices from Gaza

By Pat McDonnell Twair

LOS ANGELES—"Voices from Gaza," a low-key documentary featuring the testimonies of 15 Palestinians from the Israeli-occupied Strip, made its US debut at private showings held in March in Washington, Houston, Austin, Berkeley and Los Angeles.

The private showing was still not what the film deserved. The 51-minute documentary has been shown on television in seven European countries, including Britain, as well as Canada, New Zealand and Japan and earned excellent reviews.

Film-maker Antonia Caccia, a Jew, and Maysoon Pachachi, an American-born Iraqi, travelled with the film on its private premises. When asked why Americans have been deprived of viewing the documentary on television, both cautiously replied that their London distributor is well acquainted with the Public Broadcasting Service, which has said, "the time is not right to air Voices in the US."

When this explanation was offered during a radio interview in Los Angeles, a caller specifically asked Pachachi if the supporters of Israel in the United States were responsible for trying to prevent a PBS presentation about a year ago of Jo Franklin-Trount's documentary "Days of Rage: The Young Palestinians."

Pachachi replied that she had not seen "Rage", but that her British distributor, Metro Pictures, Ltd., is working closely with PBS in the US to attempt to air "Voices".

But in recent weeks it has become apparent that supporters of Israel have been working overtime to decide for the American public what it should, or should not, be viewing—in this case, "Voices".

"Voices" differs from "Days of Rage" in that it does not show scenes of confrontation. It subtly focuses on the grinding daily misery of occupation, whether open sewers, lack of space and



Antonia Caccia (left) and Maysoon Pachachi in Los Angeles

human rights or the ubiquitous presence of Israeli military jeeps armed with machine-guns.

The documentary, geared for an audience unacquainted with the unjust displacement of the Palestinian people in 1948, reviews the situation since 1946 and interviews Arabs ranging from a woman who lost all her children in the war of 1947 to another whose elbow was shattered by an Israeli bullet in 1988. The latter describes how her son was killed by the Israelis and a daughter was run over and crushed by an Israeli jeep.

English subtitles for the statements of the Palestinians' interviews are works of poetry, but then, most Arabs speak in poetic expressions. The most eloquent comments is from a Gazan farmer whose land has been confiscated for an Israeli settlement. In "thanking" his Israeli overlords for their beneficence, the farmer comments on how the Israelis have never received "If these wonderful Israelis could do it," he states, "they would put a meter on my nose and tax me for the air I breathe."

Both born in 1947, Pachachi graduated from the London Film School in 1974, and Caccia graduated from the National Film School in 1975. Her first film, "End of Dialogue" was one of the first documentaries to

portray life inside the black townships of South Africa. It was shown by the BBC in Britain and by CBS TV in the US where it won an Emmy award. Caccia's other credits include "The War in Zimbabwe", "The Big" about a coal miners' strike in Yorkshire, England, and "On Our Land", a documentary about a Palestinian village in Israel. Pachachi's British film credits include editing British films "Minder" and "Widows" for Thames TV, while she formed August Films in London in August 1987.

"At the onset of the Intifada," Pachachi explained, "people in London asked 'why the Palestinians were throwing rocks?' We decided to go there and let them know why on film."

It wasn't an easy task. Caccia's camera and sound men, who had been with their on location in South Africa, expressed their astonishment at the similarities between Palestinians in Gaza and the treatment of blacks in South Africa, especially after one particular incident.

"At one point, we were in a Palestinian home when we heard a commotion outside," stated Caccia. "We stepped outside to see seven Palestinian men standing against a wall being beaten by Israeli soldiers. Our cameraman started filming, the Israeli troops spotted us, one soldier

grabbed the camera, trashed the film and started beating our cameraman."

Caccia would have been next, except that, according to her account, a hapless Palestinian turned the corner onto the scene and the Israeli soldiers began slugging him while she slipped away.

The complete disregard of human rights is a fact of life in Gaza," Caccia said. "Every moment is lived in tremendous fear because each Gaza, whether 4 years old or 90 years of age, knows violent death could occur at any time and there is no authority to protest to this is a state of war."

Countered Pachachi, "I can't describe the state of euphoria our crew returned with. They had witnessed the indescribable deprivation of the Palestinians of Gaza, the tremendous sacrifices of having family members maimed, jailed, murdered—yet the spirit and willingness to sacrifice for freedom—inspired them to say they were ready for martyrdom for independence."

At a March screening in Los Angeles, an obviously distraught teenage Gazan from Beach Camp, who was shot and wounded by Israeli troops and is now studying in the US, asked the film-makers why they hadn't shown more graphic examples of the horrors Israelis have visited on the civilian population of Gaza.

Pachachi explained the film is aimed to inform the uninformed with understated interviews and that the actual recording of commonplace Israeli atrocities would only earn disbelief from western viewers educated for more than 40 years about "Israeli benevolence" toward Palestinians.

"But," she added in a radio interview, "the situation is far worse in Gaza today. I doubt that we would be allowed to film there now. Many camps are deprived of water, electricity and phones for up to three days, while, in the meantime, no one knows what the Israeli military is up to inside."

Jamal Abu Sharakh, a 23-year-old Palestinian born in the Beach Camp (Shatti) near Gaza City, wandered desperately during the summer of 1989 to obtain permission from Israeli occupation authorities to travel abroad. "I wanted to study in Jordan to be an auto mechanic," explain Nasser, Jamal's oldest brother.

"He said that if he had to wait any longer he would be too old, that the prime of his youth would be wasted, and that he would have to start thinking about a wife and family and a job."

Jamal's chances for such permission seemed better than most. Unlike most men in the Beach Camp, he had never been in prison or shot. "Like everyone here he hated the occupation, but he wasn't so politically active," recalls Ahmed, Jamal's neighbour. "When the army invaded the camp, we would all go out to fight. I can remember only a few times he was with us."

Last September, Jamal went repeatedly to the Civil Administration in Gaza to obtain permission to go abroad, each time being told to "come back next week."

"It's a game they play with everyone," says Rami Al Hagazi, a lawyer from Khan Yagis. "Eventually, you'll get frustrated and stop going."

Jamal persisted, however, perhaps leading the Israelis to believe that he was desperate enough to do anything. "It was obvious he wanted out badly," says Ahmed.

In October, Jamal moved out of his brother Nasser's house in Shatti and began living with his family in Sheikh Radwan, a resettlement area nearby. One night, in early October, Jamal was visited by the Israeli security

Shin Bet scenario ends in death

By Steve Sosbee

THE ISRAELI military has developed standardised terminology for the deaths or injuries occurring daily during the third year of the uprising in Israeli-occupied Palestine.

If the victim is shot in the streets he is described as having been "masked," participating in or promoting "violent activity," and often shot only after "attacking soldiers." An "Arab witness" may report an entirely different tale, or that the victim was shot in the back of the head without warning, but this will almost never be mentioned (unless ABC-TV films it). If a Palestinian dies in prison, it's generally called a "suicide." If it happens during the first weeks of interrogation, however, it will likely be described as "heart failure."

Because there will be an "official investigation" into every incident, though the results of such investigations are almost never made known, the point has been made: Israel is a democracy and the territories it occupies are governed by law.

The following story of the death of a young Palestinian is the result of extensive interviews with his lawyer, family, friends, witnesses, doctors and neighbours during the months immediately following his death. The Israeli military refused comment.

A simple desire

Jamal Abu Sharakh, a 23-year-old Palestinian born in the Beach Camp (Shatti) near Gaza City, wandered desperately during the summer of 1989 to obtain permission from Israeli occupation authorities to travel abroad. "I wanted to study in Jordan to be an auto mechanic," explain Nasser, Jamal's oldest brother.

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Recent casualties of Israeli repression

ty officer" for Sheikh Radwan.

"The Shin Bet man told Jamal that he would give him permission to go to Jordan if he would do some work for him, give him names of active youths, that type of stuff," Yasser, Jamal's best friend, remembers. "He gave him a day to think about it."

Two days later, on 11 October, the Shin Bet officer returned carrying Jamal's permission to leave in his hand. "Jamal wasn't into the confrontations with the army," says Ahmed. "But he was from Shatti and we are raised strong here. He would never turn in his friends just to get out."

That night Jamal reportedly told the Shin Bet officer that he would not collaborate with him against his own people. "He said, 'I'm a Palestinian, please don't ask me to be a traitor,'" recalls Bashir, Jamal's oldest brother. Upon hearing this, the Shin Bet officer took Jamal's permission, ripped it up in front of him and threw it in his face. That was his final answer. Jamal would not be leaving the Gaza Strip to study.

Jamal was crushed. "For days he walked around the house quietly," says his mother. "He wouldn't eat or speak." On 3 October 1989, Jamal borrowed Bashir's car to run an errand for his father in the city. When he passed the army camp that separates Shatti from Sheikh Radwan he saw the Shin Bet officer standing along with a uniformed officer from the army. Reportedly, Jamal circled the car around, gunned the engine, and ran over the two men. The Shin Bet officer had to have both legs amputated as a result of his injuries.

The camp guard ran up to the car, shot Jamal in the shoulder, leg and stomach, and left him for dead. A filling station attendant who saw the incident recalls, "Some boys quickly took Jamal and put him in a passing car. The soldiers were mostly concerned with the two injured Israelis."

A doctor at Shifa hospital, where Jamal was taken, and who asked not to be identified by name, remembers Jamal's arrival. "He was in a bad state so we operated on him as quickly as possible. When the soldiers arrived to take him they were very angry. Their officer said that an Arab had tried to kill a Jew and that he 'wanted' Jamal now."

pleaded with them to wait until we finished the operation, because we were not sure he would live." The soldiers left him in the hospital, under guard.

When Jamal's brother, Bashir, arrived at the Shifa hospital, he was immediately arrested. "I spent three days in Ashkelon Prison and ten days in Gaza. The Shin Bet wanted information from me about my brother and they tried the usual methods to get it. After two weeks they released me, because my brother had confessed."

On 17 October, after he was out of the critical stage, Jamal was taken to the Ramle prison hospital, where, on 8 November, his parents and two brothers visited him.

"He was in good spirits and almost well enough to get out of the hospital," Jamal's father recalls. "He said his interrogation was finished because he had told them he had run over the men on purpose."

Thankful to be alive.

On 7 November, the Red Cross reported that Jamal had been moved to Ashkelon prison, where his parents and sister visited him on 9 November. "He asked for clothes and to see his lawyer," his sister, Samira, recalls. "He said there were many Palestinians in jail with him and he was being helped by them. When we were leaving he told my father he was just 'thankful to be alive.'"

On 13 November Rami Sourani, Jamal's lawyer and one of Gaza's most respected attorneys, went to Ashkelon to visit his client, but learned that Jamal had been moved to Gaza Central Prison in Rimol, and put into isolation. His family and lawyer had their requests to see him denied. Even the Red Cross could not get in to see him. "It was as if he was under interrogation again," says Rami. "For the next two weeks no one could see him, not even his parents. Other clients of mine from inside the prison reported that Jamal was indeed again under interrogation."

On 27 November, the Red Cross was finally permitted to see him and reported to his family that his injuries were healing, that he was in good spirits, and had asked again, to see his law-

yer. Rami tried more than 10 times to see Jamal, and each time was refused.

Futile attempts

On 1 December, Jamal's mother went to the prison to see her son. They told her to wait and they would bring him to her. She waited for more than eight hours, but didn't see him. On 4 December, Rami went to Gaza Prison to see Jamal and four other clients. "The guard told me, 'Get out, I have orders not to let you see any of your cases.'"

Back at his office, Rami was told by another lawyer who had just returned from visiting clients in prison that Jamal had been killed the previous night in his cell. He had been hanged during an interrogation.

Late in the evening on 4 December the army sent a jeep to Jamal's house and picked up Bashir to take him to see the governor of Gaza. Bashir was told that his brother had committed suicide in his cell that day. Bashir was stunned. "I told them that my brother would never kill himself. The Shin Bet killed him just like they tried to kill me two months ago. I asked to see his cell and they refused."

As a lawyer in Gaza, Rami knew that "suicide" was a euphemism for murder. "No one kills himself in prison here. It is virtually impossible to hang oneself in the cells."

On 5 December, Rami asked that the official autopsy be postponed until a Danish physician, Dr Jorgen Thompsson, could fly to Israel to assist in Jamal's autopsy. On 9 December, Thompsson confirmed that Jamal's death was from strangulation by hanging.

"The question is, of course, how can someone recently shot hang himself in a cell that is supposed to be made 'suicide proof'?" Rami Sourani asks. "It is my opinion as a lawyer that Jamal was killed because he committed a unique crime. He seriously injured a Shin Bet officer. It is also auspicious that Jamal was brought back to Gaza. I think it was planned to make an example of him."

Two weeks after Jamal's death I visited his family on a rainy winter afternoon. Dozens of Jamal's family and friends sat

quietly around his picture, waiting for the military to return Jamal's body for burial. Jamal's brother Nasser said the army had just blown up his house in the Beach Camp in retaliation for Jamal's act. Nasser's wife and four children are now sleeping in his father's house. "We have to get out soon, it's his workshop we are living in, and he has to work."

Bashir, unshaven and with bloodshot eyes, explains, "We don't sleep because the army can call us at any time to bring back the body." Jamal's father, a refugee from 1948, asks, "What do they want of Jamal now? They have shot him and put him in prison and beat him. He committed a crime and paid for it, but why make us wait for his body like this?" He's crying.

On 18 December, almost two weeks after the autopsy, the army finally brought Jamal's body to his waiting family at 11 pm. The army ordered an immediate burial, permitting only 15 relatives to attend.

Another voice

On 6 February, I was in a taxi to Gaza when a young man next to me began to converse in English. "You remind me of a Canadian fellow I met in a taxi last July," he said. "He came to my house for lunch and I took him around to see the camps. When I was taking him back to Erez checkpoint, a jeep stopped us and we were arrested on the charges that I was working for the PLO. The Canadian was released after two days but I spent four months in jail for nothing."

I asked him about his prison experience. "The interrogation is the worst part. I will never forget how they tortured me: a bag was put over my head, a heavy wool one, and my arms were tied behind my back at the elbows. While one man knelt on my chest and closed my nose and mouth so I couldn't breathe, another man was squeezing my organs. If they don't release you at the right time you can die. I swear I saw death five times during my first week."

I asked him where he was in prison.

"At first they took me to Ashkelon for the interrogation. After a month I was taken to the Central Prison in Gaza."

"Do you remember the boy who committed suicide in Gaza prison in early December?" He replied, "Of course I remember. His name was Jamal. I think I heard him screaming as they hanged him in his cell."

"But it was reported that he committed suicide, that he hanged himself."

"Don't believe them!" the young man exclaimed. "You cannot hang yourself there and he was screaming when they hanged him. I heard it myself. He was murdered."

Two weeks after the death of Jamal Abu Sharakh, another prisoner, Kholeed Kamal Sheikh-Ali, died during interrogation in Gaza Central Prison. The official cause of death was "heart failure."

Steve Sosbee is a free-lance writer from Ohio, presently living in Gaza.

Another season of bitter harvest?

By Sophia Morolin
Special to The Star

LONDON—For the average reader, assailed in recent months by news of increased Russian emigration to Israel and of consequent deterioration in the outlook for peace in the region, this recommendation by author Sami Hadawi should be little short of optimistic rhetoric:

"For the state of Israel to survive, it must become a part of the Middle East, and the 3.5 million Jews must learn to live amicably among the 200 million Arabs."

But that's not how the author wished to have his message received. In the latest and third revision to his much acclaimed book, "Bitter Harvest: A Modern History of Palestine," published by Scorpion, Hadawi only intended to draw a conclusion that left minimum room for a continuation of the violence that has gripped the region since Israel came into being in 1948.

"For Israel to continue to exist surrounded by enemies relying solely on the military and economic aid it receives from the US government and world Jewry is short-sighted and unrealistic,"

observes Hadawi.

The author's moderately worded counsel, however, would be lost on those in the Israeli state who at the moment are busy building up the European portion of the population not only to perpetuate rule over the Arab territories seized in the 1967 war but also to beat the non-European Israelis at the demographic game.

Jerusalem-born Hadawi has completed a revision of his book that updates its main theme—modern history of his homeland—to include valid thoughts on the Intifada and the Israeli counter-blasts to that resurgence of Palestinian resistance.

"The extremists on both sides," he notes, "are increasing in number: the Zionists who will not be satisfied with less than the total expulsion of the Palestinian inhabitants from the territory of the whole of Palestine, and those in the Palestinian camp who believe that the only solution to their homelessness is the total destruction of the state of Israel."

If either side has its way, he warns, "the end result would be catastrophic for the people of the Middle East and would affect

the rest of the world."

The region has not been new to catastrophes. As Hadawi points out, more than 40 years of claims and counter-claims and five wars have gone by without the problem being solved. Thousands of Palestinian families have been uprooted from their homes, and then uprooted again from their new settlements.

Hadawi does not go into the implications of yet another confrontation, but those are moot while the Middle East writhes at the centre of major interpower realignments and while the full impact of the latest events, particularly Jewish immigration, remains unclear. But he does urge the great powers to act jointly and seriously towards a solution that would conform with the principles of human justice and fundamental democratic freedoms.

"Bitter Harvest" is admirably detailed and authoritative in retelling the story of Palestine from the turn-of-the-century to date. Hadawi is perceptive and fresh in his account of events prior to and after the Balfour Declaration. But, as he points out, his book "is no malcontent at-

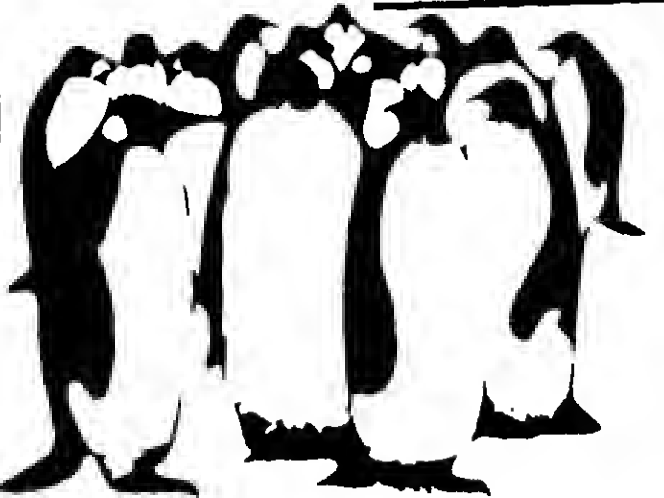
lack on those who broke faith with the Arabs for independence after World War I; or on those who for either material benefit or political advantages used methods that James Fennell, former US Secretary of Defense, described as 'bordering closely onto scandal'; or even on those who took advantage of human weaknesses and reached their goal no matter what the cost to other people."

"It is," he adds, "a chronicle of events that make up the Palestine tragedy."

Hadawi worked as the official land valuer during the British mandate period in Palestine and later for the Jordanian government and with the United Nations Palestine Commission. By now, he knows no doubt know that the great powers do not easily agree on anything and when they do, the results are as unpredictable as the emigration from the Soviet Union may be a case in point.

"Bitter Harvest," A Modern History of Palestine, Sami Hadawi, Scorpion Publishing, 352pp, £14.95.

AROUND TOWN



Mr Reeve addresses an enthusiastic crowd

May Fair in the gardens

● The British Ladies of Amman held their annual May Fair on Friday at the gardens of the British ambassador's residence. The fair, the society's major fund-raising event this year, attracted hundreds of Jordanians and members of the international community residing in Jordan.

The full day event, which was opened by British ambassador to Jordan Mr Anthony Reeve who also acted as master of ceremony, included a display of gymnastics and Scottish country dancing by children of the International Community School. Visitors walked around the garden visiting stalls selling home-made cakes, pickles and jams, ice creams and different foods. Children particularly enjoyed a variety of entertaining games. The event included a grand raffle. A number of Jordanian and international companies contributed to the event, whose proceeds will go to assist local charities.

● Amman enjoyed a small taste of Asian culture on Tuesday when Mrs Atty Suryokusumo, wife of the Indonesian ambassador to Jordan hosted the Asian Diplomatic Women's annual evening.

HRH Princess Sarvath and Their Highnesses Prince Ra'ad and Princess Majida were guests of honour for the event which raised funds for the Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped.

The women of the Chinese, Indonesian, Indian, Pakistani, Japanese and Korean diplomatic communities, with some help from their Swiss and Turkish friends had worked hard to prepare a programme of traditional music and dance from their home countries.

Highlights included an Indonesian Masked Dance, a traditional Indian dance that reflected the moods of an adolescent girl, a Pakistani wedding dance and a Chinese peasant dance. The Japanese provided an interesting contrast with their contribution of a judo demonstration. And to add a Middle Eastern touch there was an exhibition of costume that included a stunning 200 year gold embroidered Turkish wedding dress and a selection of Arab dresses by designer Hanna Beraudo.

● HRH Princess Alla bint Al Hussein patronised Friday an Arabian horse show, which was held at the Royal Stables in Al Hummar. The proceeds of the show will go to the Friends of

Liver Patients Society. In a press statement, Princess Alia called for more attention to be given to Arabian horses in their native habitat. Mrs Suhair Asfour of the Society said proceeds will support scientific research in liver diseases and health education at school.

● The Private Services Development Project (PSDP) in Amman, in co-operation with the Jordan Trade Association (JTA), held a seminar Monday at the Marriott Hotel to explain the results of visits made by American consultants to a number of Jordanian factories. The purpose of these visits was to explore the possibility of exporting Jordanian products to European and American markets. The seminar was followed by a reception.

Mr Samir Darvazeh, president of the JTA, explained the goals of the association in supporting Jordanian exports and called on businessmen to join their efforts. Mr Jayant Kalotra, president of International Business and Technical Consultants Inc. (IBTCI) which is based in Washington, briefed the audience on the results of the consultants' visits to Jordanian factories and said that Jordanian-made products were of high standards.

Mr Stuart Cruickshank and Mr John Short of IBTCI reviewed the outcome of their tours and said while the quality of Jordanian goods was high, production costs must be reduced. They also said that Jordan

must be promoted as an industrial country.

The seminar and reception were attended by bankers, businessmen and representatives of foreign establishments in the Kingdom.

● The American Women of Amman (AWA) will meet on Monday 4 June, at the Marriott Hotel from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Members and guests as well as prospective members are encouraged to attend.

Membership is open to American women and wives of American citizens. In addition, 10 per cent of the membership is open to permanent residents of Jordan, and another 10 per cent to non-residents. A guest fee of JD1 per person is charged.

Tea will be served at the meeting, after which a beauty workshop will be held in which presentations concerning skin care and make-up, hair care, colour analysis and nail care will be given by local beauty experts.

● The executive bureau of Amnesty International—Jordan Chapter, which is under establishment, met on Friday and elected Deputy Mansour Murad (president), Mr Mohammad Abu Alta (vice president), Dr Suleiman Swais (vice president for membership), Adel Jabbar Abu Ghrebeh (secretary), Khaled Rashid (treasurer) and Dr Mazen Abu Baker (media affairs).

Scrapbook

Parental discoveries

IT IS summer and this is the time when we, as fathers, realise how blessed we are to have schools take care of our children for nine months every year. My two girls have finished their final exams and are now enjoying their summer vacation. I am not. My work does not allow me to spend much time with family. Until recently, I was happy to give part of my parental responsibilities to school while my wife took care of the rest.

But now I am in trouble. Since both of my daughters are home most of the time, I am finding it difficult to cope with having that "leased" responsibility returned to me - even for a few months.

For instance, my wife insists that the girls should study - one hour daily - next year's school curricula. I, as the available father, will have to put in some time in reviewing the girls' homework and explaining some of the problematic math formulas to them.

Naturally the girls discovered how much a bad teacher I was due to my inability to perform the simplest of mathematical calculations. I overcame the embarrassment by pointing to both of them that math is not everything in life. Look at me, I said. I am a successful businessman, but I rarely use these stupid formulas when I conduct business. They were convinced, I think.

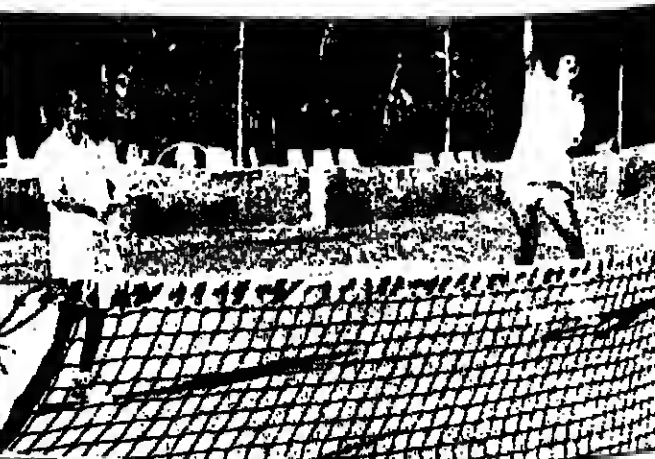
But this was not all part of my wife's extra curriculum education programme I had to take my daughters to cultural centres to visit art and book exhibitions to the park and to visit other nagging friends of theirs.

I love my children very much, but I simply can't hide the fact that I am a terrible father. Schools are a great thing because they tend to hide these horrible flaws in most of us. But of course schools can be dangerous if they succeed in replacing a father or a mother and make them both redundant. My two girls are 12 and 14 years old. They are just beginning to understand life. But after sitting with them for long hours and listening to them talking, explaining their emotions and expressing themselves, I began to see that their mental and psychological growth was not affected whatsoever by my influence as a father. We all know why.

So as I discover these nasty things about myself, I wonder how I will deal with two teenage daughters in a couple of years. I know how I can't change the way I work or think in order to give them more of my time. Their mother is a great help, but I still feel that while I was out there making a living, they were growing up away from me.

I know I am not alone in discovering these facts. There are other fathers who, like me, are stranded in a time capsule. We think schools can do what we don't have time to do ourselves, only to discover by chance that our children have grown up independently from us.

Ahmad Madi



● The final games of the YWCA Spring Tennis Tournament were held Friday under the patronage of Dr Daoud Hammamla, president of the Jordanian Tennis Federation. The events took place at the Association's tennis courts in Jabal Amman. Final results were as follows:

Ladies doubles: Lein Cummings and Joanna Donnan beat Rina Jalad and Shireen Asfour, 6/1, 1/6, 6/3.

Men's doubles: Abdullah Al Khalil and Samir Rifal beat Iad Shabadeh and Ra'fat Al Asbi, 6/1, 2/6, 6/3.

Mixed doubles: Iad Shabadeh and Suba Kassar beat Abdullah Al Khalil and Lein Cummings.

The games were refereed by Adnan Salameh, Siham Al Nuhait, Minbel Barbour, Ahmad Abu Namous, Osama Abu Saif, Mohammed Musa and Abdul Karim Husami.

Congratulations!!
Graduations, appointments, engagements, weddings, newborns, promotions, special awards, excellent achievements... Drop us a line and send a photo... we will run it free of charge in The Star's People and Events page.

24 MAY 1990

Re-living Jordan's 'Silk Road'

Japanese team spends a month in the southern desert

By Hamdan Al Hajj
Star Staff Writer

I ADMIRE the way the Japanese accomplish their work, their precision and thinking as well as their patience," says Dr Samir Ogaylat, who recently spent weeks with a Japanese team which has just finished filming in South Jordan a documentary in the "Silk Road" series.

Dr Ogaylat, a veterinary surgeon, was a member of a team of 10 Japanese, accompanied by 24 Jordanians including 14 bedouins with their 43 camels who travelled the 490-kilometre-long King's Highway starting from Qasr Amra and ending in Aqaba, to film the two-hour documentary.

Dr Ogaylat told The Star minutes after the convoy reached Aqaba that the one thousand year old trade route is believed to have passed through Jordan. The Japanese expedition has followed the same route in an attempt to prove this belief on film.

Mr Hanan Kurdi, an archaeologist of the Ministry of Tourism, says commercial caravans passed through this ancient road

carrying gum, myrrh, spices and frankincense to sell in Egypt, Palestine and European capitals like Rome.

Dr Ogaylat says that after three weeks in the wilderness, members of the expedition got extremely nervous and aggressive as a result of their isolation. "But with patience and endurance those anxieties were overcome until we reached the coast of Aqaba."

But, he adds, there was a shortage of water and food in addition to problems in transportation not to mention dealing with poisoning snakes, spiders and insects.

The expedition also encountered problems related to the shortages in camels and to caring for their newly-born young.

The weather, which was very hot during the day and extremely cold at night was also a source of complaints since none of the Japanese were accustomed to it.

The Japanese team spent almost a month in the Jordanian deserts filming castles on the Kings' Highways in addition to Petra, Rum and Aqaba.

The two-hour programme will first be shown in Japan and according to the producers it will



● As predicted by The Star, UAE champion Mohammad bin Sulayem won the Ninth Jordan International Rally, which was held on Thursday and Friday. In one of the most exciting rallies in Jordan's history, Sulayem partnered by Ronan Morgan beat his compatriot Suhail Khalifa and his partner Mubarak Al Hajiri to win first place in the A & N group. It was a close call for Bin Sulayem who retreated to second place between the 14th and 23rd stages.

Only 18 cars out of 32 finished the race, which included special stages in the Dead Sea and Petra and was considered by international observers to be one of the most exciting rallies in years. Final results were as follows:

Group S:

First: Mamdouh Khayyat and Abbas Mousawi (Mitsubishi Pajero)

Second: Mubel Saleh and Khaled Khalifa (Range Rover)

Third: Nasser Bustani and Khader Al Qusir (Nissan 240 RS)

Fourth: Ma'ruf Abu Samra and Khaled Al Naber (Daihatsu Charade)

Fifth: Hassan Tabba and Basem Sbalati (Nissan 240 RS)

Group A&N:

First: Mohammad bin Sulayem and Ronan Morgan (Toyota Celica GT)

Second: Suhail Khalifa and Mubarak al Hajiri (Mitsubishi Galant)

Third: Vlachislav Bouzin and Edgar Ottans (Lada)

Fourth: Mazen Dajani and Khaled Zakaria (Toyota Corolla GT)

Fifth: Serji Cosmachev and Mizanoff (Lada)

Sixth: Nabil Drael and Bahsar Bustani (Opel Manta)

HRH Prince Faisal bin Al Hussein on Friday evening handed the champions their awards in a reception held at the Marriott Hotel in Amman.

24 MAY 1990

Members of the team sharing a meal (right) before breaking camp (bottom) and riding their camels towards Aqaba. The expedition spent about a month following the ancient Silk Road from China



have a fantastic impact on Jordan and attract more tourists to the Kingdom.

The Japanese team made thorough researches and reviewed manuscripts in addition to conducting site visits before determining the Silk Road's route into Jordan.

Mr Seido Hino, the programme's director who works for Asahi television in Japan says "it was a tough experience

which I will never forget. After finishing the film, I might write a book about this mission and my experience with the bedouins."

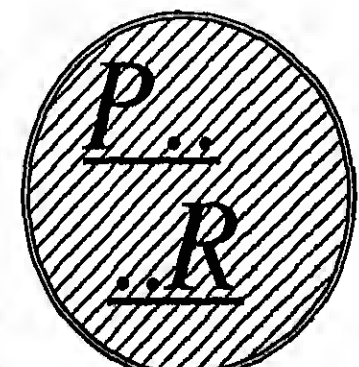
Mr Fujio Murakami, the commentator and reporter of the programme, says that he was astonished to find "huge poisonous snakes, spiders and scorpions," which he never saw before in his life, in the Jordanian desert.

All in all members of the

team killed about 70 snakes in addition to lots of poisonous scorpions, spiders and other insects.

The expedition was fully financed by Asahi Commercial Television in Japan which is owned by the private sector.

Jordan's International Traders also contributed to the mission's successful tour of Jordan's Silk Road.



Cathay Pacific's new advertising campaign

● CATHAY PACIFIC'S new direction advertising launched in February 1990 took an entire year to make. The campaign's music, TV commercial and print and outdoor advertisements represent a major departure from the traditional approach to promotion employed by CX and most major airlines. The aim was to establish a distinctive, dynamic new image for CX as the international "caring" airline for every traveller to and from the Asia/Pacific rim in the 90s.

CX's "new direction" is not simply a new advertising campaign, according to Marketing Service's Manager Alastair Blount.

"It's a re-positioning in preparation for the 1990s," he says. Then goes on to explain: "The Asia/Pacific region is coming into its own. It is said that one in three business travellers on international flights will travel to, from or within the Asia/Pacific area in the 1990s. So there will

be enormous growth here. CX is expanding, and it needs to be more strongly identified with the region - we want to position ourselves as the flag carrier of the Asia/Pacific region."

While JAL obviously comes from Japan, SQ from Singapore, and Thai from Thailand, CX's home base is much more cosmopolitan and the airline's brand name is not immediately identified with Hong Kong.

Identifying CX entirely with Hong Kong would be tricky, since the territory has a different image in different parts of the world. Yet this lack of a clearly-defined nationality is one of CX's strengths.

Richard Gocher, International Group Director of Leo Burnett International, CX's advertising agency, feels that his job has been to find a way to change the way consumers think of the airline. "This is very definitely a re-positioning," he says. "We know that people have different perceptions of Cathay depending on where they are. We want to create one single perception among all potential consumers, which means re-positioning the airline in their minds."

THE STAR 17



★ PRIZES ★

■ In co-operation with the sportswear company adidas and car manufacturer Mercedes, the following prizes will be offered to winners:

- 1-One original adidas Worldcup track suit as officially worn by one of the national teams participating in the finals;
- 2-One pair of the original adidas football shoes "Etrusco Unico" with titanium studs;
- 3-One original adidas Worldcup football jersey as officially worn by one of the national teams participating in the finals;
- 4-One original adidas football "Etrusco Unico," the official football of the Worldcup finals in Italy.
- 5-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:10, of the legendary sports car Mercedes 300 SL, year of construction 1954;
- 6-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:24, of the Mercedes car Simplex, year of construction 1902;
- 7-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:18, of the Mercedes car SSK, year of construction 1928.

C O U P O N

■ To participate in this competition fill this coupon and send it to: **World Cup 90, P O Box (9313), Amman Jordan.**

Name:.....

Telephone:.....

P O Box:.....

City:.....

Conditions: To be eligible to win one of the grand prizes you must identify 6 players in competition A and answer at least 8 questions correctly from competition B.

You can send as many coupons as you like to increase your chances of winning.

Coupons should be sent on weekly basis.

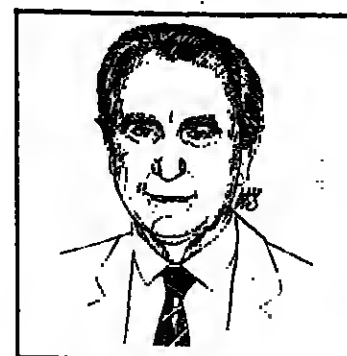
QUESTION 13 QUESTION 14

■ The football rivalry between Germany and its tiny neighbour, Austria, is an intense one, but also one of close links. The West German football league has featured Austrian star-players such as Bruno Pezzey, and personally played under one of the all-time great Austrian trainers, Ernst Happel, when he coached the Hamburg SV team. Usually, the Germans come out on top in the national team encounters during World Cup final round competition. For example, in the 1934 World Cup, Germany defeated Austria 3-2 in the match to decide third place. In 1954, West Germany thrashed the Austrians 6-1 en route to the Germans' first World Cup title. But the Austrians were good for one big upset of the West Germans during World Cup play. When was it, and who scored the winning goal? What did the outcome mean?

■ For the first time since 1950, the United States has qualified for a World Cup final round. Significantly, the young American national side is comprised of home-grown players, reflecting the drive by US soccer officials to promote the sport. During my several seasons with the New York "Cosmos", I saw the efforts made to build up football at the high school and college levels around the US, and how summer soccer camps with instructors from Europe and South America trained the young American footballers. In the past, the US teams at the World Cup were mainly comprised of European immigrants. The most memorable US World Cup victory was a 1-0 upset of England in 1950. Besides that year, what were the other World Cup finals for which the US qualified, and what were the other American victories in final competition?

WHO WILL MAKE IT?

**Italy:
Always
world
champions**



Azeglio Vico
Italy

Ireland, Czechoslovakia and the US
as Italy's opponents.

A victory in the final in Rome on 8 July would give Italy a record fourth World Cup title, and it is this goal that the team under trainer Azeglio Vicini has been obsessively working to achieve. Since the World Cup host is spared the competitive stress of qualification matches, Vicini has been preparing his "Squadra Azzurra" for the day of reckoning with numerous test matches.

Italy got an additional bonus as host with its preliminary round group. "There are in fact much more difficult groups than ours," chuckled Vicini after the drawing, which established Aze-

players. Because of his open style, Vini enjoys great popularity with the players. The first fruits of his work became apparent in 1968 when Italy, at the European Championships, came to be regarded as the team of the future as it made it through to the semifinals.

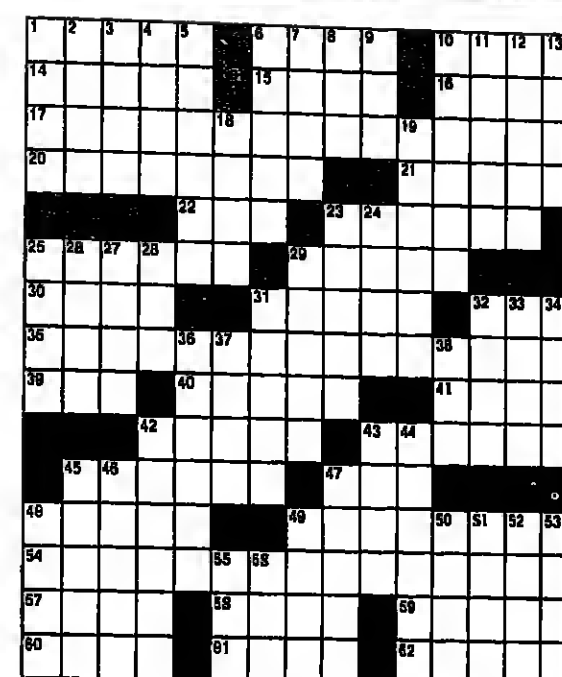
The ideal player of the new generation of Italian footballers is embodied in Gianluigi Viali. The striker from Sampdoria Genova who will be celebrating his 26th birthday a day after the final, is considered to be one of the fastest players in Europe, is technically well-versed and is equally dangerous with his head and feet. Many experts think he'll be the superstar of the World Cup.

The foundation for the Italians' offensive strength is in the team's compact defence which is brilliantly organised by Franco Baresi. The 29-year-old captain of AC Milan is effectively supported by Giuseppe Bergomi who was on Italy's 1962 World Cup championship team, and by Ciriaco Ferrara. Behind them is goalkeeper Walter Zenga, regarded by many as the world's best goalkeeper.

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Merlet's fur | 39 Fla's — Largo |
| 6 Cudgel | 40 Adlai's running
male: 1956 |
| 10 Neat | 41 Sacrament |
| 14 Swifty. To a post | 42 Admitted |
| 19 Singer Coolidge | 43 Kind of car or
game |
| 18 Decorate anew | 45 Run at full speed |
| 17 Make merry | 47 Range of vision |
| 20 Native | 48 Wall decoration |
| 21 Mollifies | 49 Deter from doing |
| 22 Bridgeage | 54 Go on a spree |
| Culbertson | 57 Stolen goods |
| 23 Hat hard | 58 Arifice |
| 25 Reserved;
retiring | 59 Moved gradually |
| 28 Frolics | 60 Other |
| 30 Incite | 81 Long-billed bird |
| 31 Avian perch | 82 Soacious |
| 32 Delight | |
| 33 Carve | |



DOWN

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 The Square Egg's author | 19 Succored | 42 Mandarin or Temple |
| 2 Ugandan exile | 23 Writer Pasternak | 43 Jalapa coin |
| 3 Famed organist-composer | 24 Writer Ludwig | 44 Rebuttal |
| 4 Comparable to | 25 Mummi's cover-up | 45 Swimmer's stroke |
| 5 Accimates | 28 A double-reed | 46 Costa Rican statesman |
| 6 Close friend | 27 Moisi | 47 Predatory birds |
| 7 Fuzz | 28 D.D.E.'s command | 48 Cathedral's projection |
| 8 Western knead | 29 Tied the knot again | 49 An Amaz |
| 9 Kind of relief | 31 Daisylike flower | 50 Cause the ruin of |
| 10 Guss medical ad to | 32 Lockup | 51 Jason's ship |
| 11 Singer Delta | 33 Lyricist Harbach | 52 Consider |
| 12 Dazzled | 34 North Sea | 53 Small whirlpool |
| 13 Sphagnum, e.g. | 35 leader | 54 Prait with corn or pod |
| 14 Animal's skin | 36 Most recent | 56 Focal point |
| | 37 Anglo-Saxon | |
| | 38 Brin great | |

Solution



♣ Jordan Bridge ♠

♥ By Ghassan Ghanem ♦

Your hand is a bit too strong

The Jordanian ladies and open teams travelled to Egypt last June to represent Jordan in the Fifth Asia and Middle East Championship in Cairo.

It was an extremely successful championship since nine open teams and seven ladies teams participated and had a very hot competition to determine the representative of the zone in the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup.

Here is a hand I played with my partner (my brother Marwan) in the open pairs.

South (Ghassan) North (Marwan)

♠ 42	♠ A7
♥ AQJ6	♥ K2
♦ AQ42	♦ KJ83
♣ A72	♣ Q10943

IN (1) 2♣ (2)
 2♥ (3) 3♣ (4)
 3♦ (5) 3♥ (6)
 3♠ (7) 4♦ (8)
 4♥ (9) 4♠ (10)
 4N (11) 6♦ (12)

The bidding needs clarification since it is a part of a system compiled by ourselves.

- (1) The traditional 15-17 in opening.
- (2) Modified Stayman, not necessarily four cards of a major.
- (3) Four cards of hearts, no four cards of spades, (only by partnership agreement).
- (4) Relay, tell me more about your distribution.
- (5) I have four cards of a minor and doubleton spades.
- (6) What minor?
- (7) Four cards of diamonds, which means that my hand is 2-4-4-3.

(8) O.K., I agree to diamonds but I do not have a stopper in clubs otherwise I would have bid it first.

(9) Cue bid, first or second round control in hearts.

(10) Same but in spades.

(11) I have two of the three top honours of our agreed upon trump suit (diamonds), and by inference, I have a club stopper.

(12) To play.

Before going on, decide how you are going to play the hand after the diamond lead.

The only problem in the hand is how to play the club suit combination for one loser only. I thought that the best line for this combination was to finesse twice, I took the two club finesses, but perhaps I read too much. ♠K and ♠J were both on my left and I went one down.

The only other pair who bid the slam were the formidable pair, Zis Mahmoud and Masoud Slim of Pakistan.

Zis followed his famous nose* and he played ♠A then a small club towards the ♠Q to make the slam, the same line I would have followed if my partner did not hold ♠9!

But wait! the story has a happy ending. Here is how the hand was reported by Philip A. Alder the editor of the Dally Bulletin:

"When I asked Ghassan and Marwan Ghannem, impressive victors in the open pairs, the first hand they gave me was a good case of the right medicine but the patient dying. A good sequence led to an excellent slam. Unluckily though that Marwan's hand was a bit too strong, the nine of clubs too strong. Ghassan took two club finesses and went down."

*Moreover, this is the odds line according to Bridge Encyclopedia.

JEANE DIXON'S *Your Horoscope*



ARTIES (21 March - 19 April): A trial arrangement could lead to a permanent position. You get an earful when you talk with a child's teacher. A compromise may not be acceptable. Hold out for the whole package. Handle your finances personally to prevent costly mistakes. Sucking to conventional business methods will help keep you out of hot water. Show up for a date on time. Be discreet about a previous romance.

TAURUS (20 April - 20 May): Work hard to repair your relationship with a client or customer. A retiree could receive a windfall. Approach the subject of commitment with care. You do not want to scare someone off! Delegate routine tasks in order to have more time for thinking and planning. Once others understand a problem, they will be eager to help. Make the most of your special talents.

GEMINI (21 May - 20 June): A personal relationship is revitalised. You look forward to getting together soon. Someone's opposition to an original idea is weakening. Your enthusiasm wins you a coveted assignment. Your ambitions are fired by what you see someone else accomplish. Self-discipline is essential if you hope to reach your goals. You find a novel solution to a nagging problem. Avoid brawling.

CANCER (21 June - 22 July): It is time to get out and socialise again. Forget past disappointments. You are a vital person and need to be where the action is. Take a chance on a blind date! Let others think they are in control and then slip quietly past them. A family feud can be ended with a phone call. Romance is happier the second time around. Dress elegantly this week.

LEO (23 July - 22 Aug.): Avoid running up new credit charges if you already have trouble paying the bills. Settle a long-standing debt. Get together with an old friend and discuss a business problem. Family ties deepen. You find a unique way to deal with a financial problem. Do not let your high standards slip. Make things easy for friends and family members who work overtime. Promote noncommunity project.

VIRGO (23 Aug. - 22 Sept.): Keep your promises. New contracts bring results sooner than anticipated. Celebrate with someone who shares your interests. You meet a challenge head on and emerge victorious. Good luck blossoms a romance. Computer science makes it possible for you to vacation and work, too. A charming new romantic partner may be too good to be true. Proceed with caution. Guard savings.

LIBRA (23 Sept. - 22 Oct.): Return telephone calls promptly. Discussing money with an outsider invites trouble. Rely on experts to interpret a contract. Member of opposite sex could distract you from work. A practical approach helps you solve a work problem. An amusing incident is recalled. Although family members enjoy a hearty laugh, you feel embarrassed. A platonic relationship needs nurturing.

SCORPIO (23 Oct. - 21 Nov.): Keep your emotions under control and things will begin to look up in business. Refuse to tolerate prejudice. Check insurance coverage on your valuables before making a trip. A relationship needs more time to grow. Someone may be confused by too much advice. Be mindful of the kind of example you set for a child. A new romance has tremendous potential.

SAGITTARIUS (22 Nov. - 21 Dec.): Work alone this week and you will accomplish more. A telephone call from a college chum could turn your weekend plans upside down. Rearrange your schedule if this person means a lot to you. Try to work from home this week in order to avoid distractions. A short trip produces some special memories. A conversation with a young person proves revealing. Relax with a good book this week.

CAPRICORN (22 Dec. - 19 Jan.): Who and what you know are the keys to success this week. Behind-the-scenes alliance help someone land an executive job. Recycle old projects to boost profits. Romance is both delightful and funny. You get an unusual opportunity to do a favour for a relative. Loved one will never forget your kindness. A financial situation is not as bad as it seems. Romance looks terrific.

AQUARIUS (20 Jan. - 18 Feb.): Deal with stress before it affects your work or health. It is time to chart your own course. Others will follow your lead. The little things you do now will pay rich dividends. The emphasis now is on fulfilling your dreams. Your relationship with a newcomer is in the limelight. A smidgen that clears the air. Your keen sense of humor rescues you from a tight spot.

PISCES (19 Feb. - 20 March): Give your work top priority. A timely business tip puts you on the road to success. Your social life begins to accelerate. A financial deal requires the assistance of an accountant or lawyer. A tricky situation requires great diplomacy. Your mate might be able to handle it best. Talk over the alternatives. You could be the recipient of a happy surprise this week.

THIS WEEK'S CHILDREN are loyal to their friends and ruthless to their enemies. Although receptive to constructive criticism, these youngsters cannot tolerate negativity. Work is their passion. There could be a tendency to overindulge in rich foods and vinegars. Help these children find healthy outlets for their restless energy. They enjoy life's luxuries and are willing to work hard to attain them. Although they like to project the image of a "play person," they are truly devoted to mate and home.

Diplomatic Corps	
Algerian	641271/2
Arab Republic of Yemen	642381
Australian	637246/7
Austrian Embassy	674750
Bahrain	664148
Belgian	675683
Canadian	666124
Chilean	661336
Cyprus Honorary Cons.	642653
Czechoslovakian	665105
Danish Consulate Gen.	622324
Finnish Consulate	623443
French	641273/4
German	689351
German D.R.	819351/2
Greek	672331
Hungarian	674916
Indian	637262
Iraqi	639331
Italian	638185
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COMICS

calvin and hobbes

ONLY IF IT'S NOT THAT ANGRY "HAMSTER HUEY AND THE GOODY KARLOOIE".

ARE YOU GOING TO READ CALVIN A STORY?

I WANT A STORY ABOUT HOBBS AND ME.

OK...HMM...LET'S SEE...ONCE THERE WAS A BOY NAMED CALVIN WHO LIVED WITH A TIGER NAMED HOBBS.

THIS IS GREAT!

TODAY THEY GOT UP AT THE CRACK OF DAWN AND MADE A HUGE RUCKUS RUNNING UP THE STAIRS, GALUMP, GALUMP, GALUMP, AND SLIDING DOWN AGAIN, BUMP, BUMP, BUMP.

YEAH, THEN THE BIG BAD DAD YELLED THAT IF WE DIDN'T KNOCK IT OFF, HE'D MAIL US TO PLUTO THIRD CLASS.

WHO'S TELLING THIS STORY, YOU OR ME?

YOU DID SAY THAT, DONT TRY TO DENY IT!

SO FINALLY, CALVIN GOT THE HINT AND HE WENT TO BUY HIS INNARDS WITH CHOCOLATE CEREAL, AND TO GET HIS BRAIN WATCHING CARTOONS.

HEY! NO EDITORIALS!

AT LAST CALVIN AND HOBBS WENT OUTSIDE, AND IT WAS NICE AND QUIET IN THE HOUSE AGAIN. AT LEAST FOR A WHILE. WELL, GOOD NIGHT!

GOOD NIGHT! THAT'S NOT THE END! YOU DIDN'T EVEN GET US TO LUNCHTIME!

THAT'S RIGHT...IT'S NOT THE END OF THE STORY. THIS STORY DOESN'T HAVE AN END. YOU AND HOBBS WILL WRITE MORE OF IT TOMORROW AND EVERY DAY AFTER. BUT NOW IT'S TIME TO SLEEP. SO GOOD NIGHT!

OH! OK, GOOD NIGHT.

THIS IS A GOOD STORY ABOUT US IF IT DOESN'T END. THAT'S THE KIND OF STORY I LIKE BEST. GOOD NIGHT, O' BUDDY!

ME TOO! SEE YOU TOMORROW!

The Far Side

By GARY LARSON

Distant Hills

The distant hills call to me. Their rolling waves induce my heart. Oh how I want to gaze in their lush valleys. Oh how I want to run down their green slopes. Alas, I cannot. Damn the electric fence! Damn the electric fence!

Thank you.

Sheep health classes

"Listen, before we take this guy, let me ask you this: You ever kill a flea before, Dawkins? It ain't easy."

Slug vacation disasters

"Boy, there sure are a lot of slugs around here, aren't there? ... Chirping and chirping... These glaucous 'snails'... killed through the still morning air. The spider's sheigan had found its mark."

Cow poetry

Well, there he goes again... "Course, I guess I did the same thing at his age - cheating every day to see if I was becomin' a shillock."